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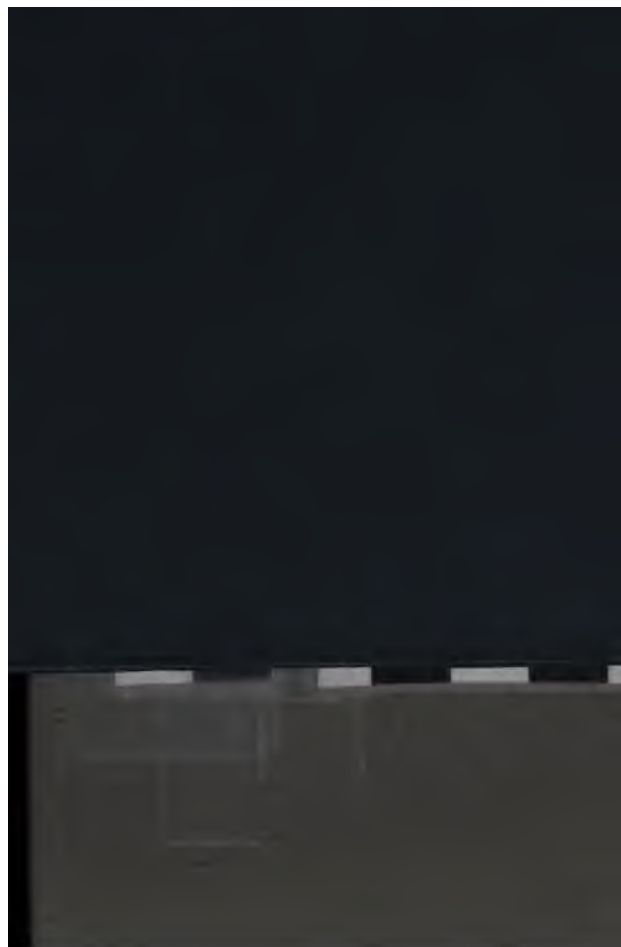
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# A Voyage to Lilliput

*Edited by* HANNAFORD BENNETT

A\*



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JOHN LONG, PUBLISHER, LONDON

# A Voyage to Lilliput

By  
Dean Swift

With Biographical Introduction  
by  
Hannaford Bennett



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13 & 14 Norris Street, Haymarket

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## Biographical Introduction

THE greatest of English humourists was born in Ireland, but, like the author of the *Sentimental Journey*, he was an Irishman with no Irish blood in his veins. "I am not of this vile country," he once wrote, "I am an Englishman." The Swift family was of wholly English origin and connections, and for many generations it belonged to Yorkshire. The dean's grandfather entered the Church, and was appointed to the vicarage of Goodrich on the Wye; the vicar married a Miss Dryden, who was a relative of John Dryden, and had a family of thirteen or fourteen children, of whom Jonathan Swift, the father of the dean, was the seventh or eighth son. Jonathan Swift practised in the Law Courts at Dublin, and was elected a steward of the King's Inn; but he died at the age of twenty-five, and left his wife, who was a Leicestershire lady of good family but no means, with an infant daughter, an unborn son, and an annuity of twenty pounds

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a year. A few months later, on the 30th of November 1667, the son, who was named Jonathan after his father, was born at Hoey's Court, Dublin.

The most affluent member of the Swift family was Godwin Swift, a brother of Jonathan Swift the elder, and he undertook the boy's education. Swift in later days was wont to complain that he had "the education of a dog;" but he was given the best education that Ireland could afford. At six years of age he was sent to the Kilkenny Grammar School, and at fourteen to Dublin University. At Dublin University he remained seven years, and was wild and witty and poor. Towards the end of this period he complains that he was "so discouraged and sunk in his spirits that he too much neglected his academic studies;" and thus in his last term examination he failed in two or three subjects, and obtained his degree only by "special favour." At the suggestion of his mother, Swift recommended himself to the favour of Sir William Temple, a relative of hers by marriage, and was received into Temple's service at Moor Park,

Surrey. Temple had retired from public affairs, and lived quietly among his books, but as the statesman who had negotiated the Triple Alliance, the one bright page in the reign of Charles II., he was held in high esteem, and frequently consulted by William of Orange and the Ministers of State. Swift read to Temple, kept his accounts and acted as secretary, but what was of greater importance, at Temple's table he saw and heard and studied and measured himself with the men who were making history in the great world. At the end of five years, Swift in a fit of dissatisfaction returned to Ireland, and was ordained and obtained the small living of Kilroot on the borders of Belfast Lough, but soon at Temple's request he returned to Moor Park, and remained with him, no longer as a dependent but as a friend, until his patron's death in 1699. Temple had discovered the greatness of the genius that was being sheltered under his roof, for besides sundry satirical verses, Swift had written at Moor Park the *Tale of a Tub* and the *Battle of the Books*, although neither of these works was published for



some time yet. After Temple's death, *Swift*, as literary executor, collected and issued Temple's works under the patronage of the King; and he obtained the position of chaplain to the Earl of Berkeley, one of the Lord Justices of Ireland. Berkeley presented him in turn with the vicarage of Laracor, the rectory of Rathbiggan, and the prebend of Dunlavin, the united income from which was about two hundred and thirty pounds a year. And before Swift became a political writer and the mainstay of the Tory party in London, he lived for a while at Laracor, improving the vicarage and adding to the glebe. There were but fifteen parishioners under his care, and it sometimes happened that only himself and the clerk attended the church, but the service was read to meet the occasion: "Dearly beloved Roger, the Scripture moveth you and me in sundry places. . . ."

At Moor Park Swift had undertaken the education of a little girl, Hester Johnson, the Stella of history, who was the natural daughter of Sir William Temple. Temple left her a small property in Ireland, and, with a Mrs Dingley as chaperone, she

accepted Swift's suggestion that she should reside in Ireland. Swift is said to have married her, but the evidence is inconclusive, and it is certain that they always occupied separate households. Swift at this time lived partly in Ireland and partly in London, and it was during one long absence that every morning and evening he wrote in a language of his own the famous letters, describing the events of the day, which are known as the *Journal to Stella*. In London Swift became acquainted with Mrs Vanhomrigh, whose eldest daughter, Esther Vanhomrigh, is celebrated under the name of Vanessa. In her infatuation she followed Swift to Ireland, pouring out the most violent letters to him. But learning of the supposed marriage to Stella, she sank under the blow, and after her death, by her injunctions, the poem "Cadenus and Vanessa" was published.

Swift's first essay in political writing was a *Discourse on the Contests and Discussions in Athens and Rome*; and the subsequent publication of the *Tale of a Tub* and the *Battle of the Books*, which had hitherto been

circulated privately, set the seal upon his fame. Addison, in presenting him with one of his works, inscribes it to "the greatest genius of the age." Swift, after a slight flirtation with the Whigs, became the leading exponent of the Tory party. He dined with the principal Ministers every Saturday, and his inward convictions were strengthened by his personal attachment to them; he defended their measures in pamphlets and poems and in the press, and up to the fall of the Tory ministry on the death of Queen Anne, directed and inspired in some degree their policy. At the height of his power, courted by the leaders of both political parties, Swift had reason to expect high Church honours, but although he was able to obtain offices and rewards for literary friends, and could write: "When I had credit for some years at Court, I provided for above fifty people in both kingdoms, of which not one was a relative," the Queen declined to make him a bishop and he never received more than the deanery of St Patrick's, which was given to him in 1713. With the advent of the new ministry he returned to Ireland,

ess of the future, a disappointed and  
tered man.

ft lived mostly in Ireland from the  
ion of George I.; and after the death  
ella never left Ireland. The first sub-  
hat drew him again into activity was,  
id, "the jobbery of Whig Ministers;"  
his invective united the Irish people in  
raise. A patent had been granted to a  
ood by which he was permitted to coin  
oo in copper for the use of Ireland, at  
gain to himself but at great loss to Ire-

Swift wrote the *Drapier's Letters*  
g the people not to receive the money;  
the patent was withdrawn, and the  
y suppressed. But the supreme work  
ift's Irish period was *Gulliver's Travels*,  
1 was published in 1726. He wrote it,  
id, "to vex the world rather than to  
t it;" he "hated and detested that  
al called man" and could "love only  
iduals." Most of Swift's writings were  
shed anonymously, and he was careless  
cuniary return: "I never got a far-  
," he wrote in 1735, "by anything I  
; except once, about eight years ago,

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and that was by Mr Pope's prudent management for me." He foresaw his own end. He predicted that, like Marlborough and Somers, the greatest general and the greatest lawyer of that age, he would "die at the top." In 1736 his faculties began to fail, and in 1742 it was necessary to place him under restraint. Intense suffering was followed by helpless idiocy; his mind had ebbed away. For two years he lingered on, but in October 1745, he exchanged the sleep of insensibility for the sleep of death, and was buried beside Stella. He left his property to build a mad-house.

HANNAFORD BENNETT

## The Publisher to the Reader

**THE** Author of these Travels, Mr Lemuel Gulliver, is my antient and intimate Friend ; there is likewise some Relation between us by the Mother's Side. About three Years ago, Mr Gulliver growing weary of the Concourse of curious People coming to him at his House in Redriff, made a small Purchase of Land, with a convenient House, near Newark in Nottinghamshire, his Native Country ; where he now lives retired, yet in good Esteem among his Neighbours.

Although Mr Gulliver was born in Nottinghamshire, where his Father dwelt, yet I have heard him say, his Family came from Oxfordshire ; to confirm which, I have observed in the Church-Yard at Banbury, in that County, several Tombs and Monuments of the Gullivers.

Before he quitted Redriff, he left the Custody of the following Papers in my Hands, with the liberty to dispose of them as I should think fit. I have carefully perused them three times : The Style is very plain and simple ; and the only Fault I find is, that the Author, after the manner of Travellers, is a little too Circumstantial. There is an Air of Truth apparent through the Whole ; and indeed the Author was so distinguished for his Veracity, that it became a sort of Proverb among his Neighbours at Redriff, when any one affirm'd a Thing, to say, it was as true as if Mr Gulliver had spoke it.

## 16 The Publisher to the Reader

By the Advice of several worthy Persons, to w<sup>h</sup> with the Author's Permission, I communicated t<sup>e</sup> Papers, I now venture to send them into the W<sup>o</sup>ld, hoping they may be at least, for some time, a b<sup>e</sup> Entertainment to our young Noblemen, than common Scribbles of Politicks and Party.

This Volume would have been at least twice large, if I had not made bold to strike out innumerable Passages relating to the Winds and Tides, as well to the Variations and Bearings in the several Voyages together with the minute Descriptions of the Management of the Ship in Storms, in the Style of Sail. Likewise the Account of the Longitudes and Latitudes wherein I have Reason to apprehend that Mr Gulson may be a little dissatisfied : But I was resolved to leave the Work as much as possible to the general Capabilities of Readers. However, if my own Ignorance in these Affairs shall have led me to commit some Mistakes I alone am answerable for them : And if any Traveller hath a Curiosity to see the whole Work at large, and come from the Hand of the Author, I shall be ready to gratify him.

As for any further Particulars relating to the Author, the Reader will receive Satisfaction from the last Pages of the Book.

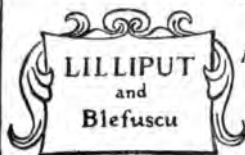
RICHARD SYMPSON

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## A Voyage to Lilliput

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Hogs I  
P. Mintag  
I. Good Fortune  
I. Nafrou  
Sunda  
Sillabak  
Straits of Sunda



Blefuscu  
Blefuscu  
LILLIPUT  
Discovered, A.D. 1699



Dimens Land

# A Voyage to Lilliput

## CHAPTER I

The Author gives some Account of himself and Family. His first Inducements to travel. He is shipwreck'd, and swims for his Life, gets safe on Shoar in the Country of Lilliput, is made a Prisoner, and carried up the Country.

MY Father had a small estate in Nottinghamshire ; I was the Third of five Sons. He sent me to Emanuel-College in Cambridge at Fourteen years old, where I resided Three years, and applyed myself close to my Studies : But the Charge of maintaining me (although I had a very scanty Allowance) being too great for a narrow Fortune I was bound Apprentice to Mr James Bates, an eminent Surgeon in London, with whom I continued four years ; and my Father now and then sending me small sums of Money, I laid them

out in learning Navigation, and other parts of the Mathematicks, useful to those who intend to travel, as I always believed it would some time or other my fortune to do. When I left Mr Bates, I went down to my Father ; where, by the assistance of Him and my Uncle John, and some other Relations, I got forty Pounds, and a promise of thirty Pounds a year to maintain me at Leyden : There I studied Physick two Years and seven Months, knowing it would be useful in long Voyages.

Soon after my Return from Leyden, I was recommended, by my good Master Mr Bates, to be Surgeon to the *Swallow*, Captain Abraham Pannell Commander ; with whom I continued three Years and a half, making a Voyage or two into the Levant, and some other Parts. When I came back, I resolved to settle in London, to which Mr Bates, my Master, encouraged me, and by him I was recommended to several Patients. I took part of a small House in the Old-Jury ; and being advised to alter my condition, I married Mrs Mary

Burton, second Daughter to Mr Edmund Burton Hosier in Newgate-street, with whom I received four hundred Pounds for a Portion.

But, my good Master Bates dying in two years after, and I having few Friends, my Business began to fail ; for my Conscience would not suffer me to imitate the bad practice of too many among my Brethren. Having therefore consulted with my Wife, and some of my Acquaintance, I determined to go again to Sea. I was Surgeon successively in two Ships, and made several Voyages, for six Years, to the East and West-Indies, by which I got some Addition to my Fortune. My hours of Leisure I spent in reading the best Authors ancient and modern, being always provided with a good number of Books ; and when I was ashoar, in observing the Manners and Dispositions of the People, as well as learning their Language, wherein I had a great Facility by the strength of my Memory.

The last of these Voyages not proving very fortunate, I grew weary of the Sea, and in-

tended to stay at home with my Wife and Family. I removed from the Old-Jury to Fetter-Lane, and from thence to Wapping, hoping to get Business among the Sailors; but it would not turn to account. After three years' expectation that things would mend, I accepted an advantageous Offer from Captain William Prichard, Master of the *Antelope*, who was making a Voyage to the South-Sea. We set sail from Bristol May 4, 1699, and our Voyage at first was very prosperous.

It would not be proper, for some reasons, to trouble the Reader with the Particulars of our adventures in those Seas: Let it suffice to inform him, that in our Passage from thence to the East-Indies, we were driven by a violent Storm to the Northward of Van Diemen's Land. By an Observation, we found ourselves in the Latitude of 30 Degrees 2 Minutes South. Twelve of our Crew were dead by immoderate Labour and ill Food, the rest were in a very weak condition. On the fifth of November, which was the beginning

of Summer in those parts, the Weather being very hazy, the Seamen spyed a Rock, within half a Cable's length of the Ship ; but the Wind was so strong, that we were driven directly upon it, and immediately split. Six of the Crew, of whom I was one, having let down the Boat into the Sea, made a shift to get clear of the Ship, and the Rock. We rowed by my Computation about three Leagues, till we were able to work no longer, being already spent with labour while we were in the Ship. We therefore trusted ourselves to the mercy of the waves, and in about half an hour the Boat was upset by a sudden Flurry from the North. What became of my Companions in the Boat, as well as of those who escaped on the Rock, or were left in the Vessel, I cannot tell ; but conclude they were all lost. For my own part, I swam as Fortune directed me, and was push'd forward by Wind and Tide. I often let my Legs drop, and could feel no bottom : But when I was almost gone and able to struggle no longer, I found myself within my depth ; and by this time the Storm

was much abated. The Declivity was so small, that I walked near a Mile before I got to the shore, which I conjectur'd was about eight a'clock in the Evening. I then advanced forward near half a Mile, but could not discover any sign of Houses or Inhabitants ; at least I was in so weak a condition, that I did not observe them. I was extremely tired, and with that, and the Heat of the weather, and about half a pint of Brandy that I drank as I left the Ship, I found myself much inclined to sleep. I lay down on the Grass, which was very short and soft, where I slept sounder than ever I remember to have done in my life, and as I reckoned, above Nine hours ; for when I awaked, it was just Day-light. I attempted to rise, but was not able to stir : For, as I happened to lie on my back, I found my Arms and Legs were strongly fastened on each side to the ground ; and my Hair, which was long and thick, tied down in the same manner. I likewise felt several slender Ligatures across my body, from my Arm-pits to my Thighs. I could

only look upwards ; the Sun began to grow hot, and the Light offended mine Eyes. I heard a confused Noise about me, but in the posture I lay, could see nothing except the the Sky. In a little time I felt something alive moving on my left Leg, which advancing gently forward over my Breast, came almost up to my Chin ; when bending mine Eyes downwards as much as I could, I perceived it to be a Human creature not Six inches high, with a Bow and Arrow in his Hands, and a Quiver at his Back. In the mean time, I felt at least forty more of the same kind (as I conjectured) following the first. I was in the utmost astonishment, and roared so loud, that they all ran back in a fright ; and some of them, as I was afterwards told, were hurt with the Falls they got by leaping from my sides upon the ground. However, they soon returned, and one of them, who ventured so far as to get a full sight of my Face, lifting up his hands and eyes by way of Admiration, cried out in a shrill but distinct voice, Hekinah Degul : The others repeated the same Words



several times, but I then knew not what they meant. I lay all this while, as the Reader may believe, in great Uneasiness : At length struggling to get loose, I had the fortune to break the Strings, and wrench out the Pegs that fastened my Left arm to the ground ; for, by lifting it up to my Face, I discover'd the methods they had taken to bind me ; and, at the same time, with a violent Pull, which gave me excessive pain, I a little loosened the Strings that tied down my Hair on the Left side, so that I was just able to turn my Head about two inches. But the Creatures ran off a second time, before I could seize them ; whereupon there was a great Shout in a very shrill accent, and after it ceased, I heard one of them cry aloud, Tolgo Phonac ; when in an instant I felt above an Hundred Arrows discharged on my Left hand, which pricked me like so many Needles ; and besides they shot another Flight into the Air, as we do Bombs in Europe, whereof many, I suppose, fell on my Body (though I felt them not) and some on my Face, which I

immediately covered with my Left hand. When this shower of Arrows was over, I fell a-groaning with Grief and Pain, and then striving again to get loose, they discharged another Volley larger than the first, and some of them attempted with Spears to stick me in the Sides ; but, by good luck, I had on me a Buff Jerkin, which they could not pierce. I thought it the most prudent method to lie still, and my design was to continue so till night, when my Left hand being already loose, I could easily free myself : And as for the Inhabitants, I had reason to believe I might be a match for the greatest Armies they could bring against me, if they were all of the same size with him that I saw. But Fortune disposed otherwise of me. When the People observed I was quiet, they discharged no more Arrows : But by the Noise I heard, I knew their numbers encreased ; and about Four 'yards from me, over-against my Right ear, I heard a knocking for above an hour, like that of people at work ; when turning my head that way, as well as the

Pegs and Strings would permit me, I saw a Stage erected about a Foot and a half from the ground, capable of holding Four of the Inhabitants, with two or three Ladders to mount it : From whence one of them, who seemed to be a Person of Quality, made me a long Speech, whereof I understood not one Syllable. But I should have mentioned, that before the Principal person began his oration, he cryed out Three times Langro Dehul san : (these words and the former were afterwards repeated and explained to me.) Whereupon immediately about Fifty of the Inhabitants came, and cut the Strings that fastened the Left side of my head, which gave me the liberty of turning it to the Right, and of observing the Person and Gesture of him that was to speak. He appeared to be of a middle age, and taller than any of the other Three who attended him, whereof one was a Page that held up his train, and seemed to be somewhat longer than my Middle finger ; the other Two stood one on each side to support him. He acted every part of an Orator, and

I could observe many Periods of Threatnings, and others of Promises, Pity, and Kindness. I answered in a few words, but in the most submissive manner, lifting up my Left hand and both mine Eyes to the Sun, as calling him for a Witness ; and being almost famished with Hunger, having not eaten a Morsel for some hours before I left the Ship, I found the Demands of nature so strong upon me, that I could not forbear showing my Impatience (perhaps against the strict Rules of Decency) by putting my finger frequently on my mouth, to signify that I wanted Food. The Hurgo (for so they call a Great Lord, as I afterwards learnt) understood me very well. He descended from the Stage, and commanded that several Ladders should be applied to my Sides, on which above an Hundred of the Inhabitants mounted, and walked towards my Mouth, laden with Baskets full of Meat, which had been provided, and sent thither by the King's Orders upon the first Intelligence he received of me. I observed there was the flesh of several Animals,

but could not distinguish them by the Taste. There were Shoulders, Legs, and Loins shaped like those of Mutton, and very well dressed, but smaller than the Wings of a Lark. I eat them by Two or Three at a mouthful, and took Three Loaves at a time, about the bigness of Musket Bullets. They supplied me as they could, showing a thousand marks of Wonder and Astonishment at my Bulk and Appetite. I then made another sign that I wanted Drink. They found by my eating that a small quantity would not suffice me, and being a most ingenious people, they slung up with great dexterity one of their largest Hogsheads, then rolled it towards my Hand, and beat out the Top ; I drank it off at a draught, which I might well do, for it did not hold Half a pint, and tasted like a small Wine of Burgundy, but much more delicious. They brought me a Second Hogshead, which I drank in the same manner, and made signs for more, but they had none to give me. When I had performed these Wonders, they shouted for joy, and danced

upon my breast, repeating several times as they did at first, Hekinah Degul. They made me a sign that I should throw down the two Hogsheads, but first warned the people below to stand out of the way, crying aloud, Borach Mivola, and when they saw the Vessels in the air, there was an universal shout of Hekinah Degul. I confess I was often tempted, while they were passing backwards and forwards on my body, to seize Forty or Fifty of the first that came in my reach, and dash them against the ground. But the remembrance of what I had felt, which probably might not be the worst they could do, and the Promise of Honour I made them, for so I interpreted my submissive behaviour, soon drove out these Imaginations. Besides, I now consider'd myself as bound by the Laws of Hospitality to a People who had treated me with so much Expence and Magnificence. However, in my thoughts I could not sufficiently wonder at the Intrepidity of these diminutive Mortals, who durst venture to mount and walk upon my Body, while one

of my Hands was at liberty, without trembling at the very sight of so prodigious a Creature as I must appear to them. After some time, when they observed that I made no more demands for Meat, there appeared before me a Person of high Rank from his Imperial Majesty. His Excellency having mounted on the small of my Right Leg, advanced forward up to my Face, with about a Dozen of his Retinue. And, producing his Credentials under the Signet Royal, which he applied close to mine Eyes, spoke about Ten minutes, without any signs of Anger, but with a kind of determinate Resolution; often pointing forwards, which, as I afterwards found, was towards the Capital City, about Half a mile distant, whither it was agreed by his Majesty in Council that I must be conveyed. I answered in few Words, but to no purpose, and made a sign with my Hand that was loose, putting it to the other (but over his Excellency's Head, for fear of hurting him or his Train) and then to my own Head and Body, to signify that I desired my Liberty.

It appeared that he understood me well enough, for he shook his head by way of disapprobation, and held his hand in a posture to shew that I must be carried as a Prisoner. However, he made other Signs to let me understand that I should have Meat and Drink enough, and very good Treatment. Whereupon I once more thought of attempting to break my Bonds, but again, when I felt the smart of their Arrows upon my Face and Hands, which were all in Blisters, and many of the Darts still sticking in them, and observing likewise that the number of my Enemies encreased, I gave tokens to let them know that they might do with me what they pleased. Upon this the Hurgo and his Train withdrew with much Civility and chearful Countenances. Soon after I heard a general Shout, with frequent repetitions of the words, Peplom Selan, and I felt great numbers of the people on my Left side relaxing the cords to such a degree, that I was able to turn upon my Right. But before this, they had dawbed my Face and both my Hands



with a sort of Ointment very pleasant to the Smell, which in a few minutes removed all the smart of their arrows. These Circumstances, added to the Refreshment I had received by their Victuals and Drink, which were very nourishing, disposed me to sleep. I slept about Eight hours, as I was afterwards assured ; and it was no wonder, for the Physicians, by the Emperor's Order, had mingled a sleepy Potion in the Hogsheads of Wine.

It seems that upon the first moment I was discovered sleeping on the ground after my Landing, the Emperor had early notice of it by an Express, and determined in Council that I should be tyed in the manner I have related (which was done in the Night while I slept), that Plenty of Meat and Drink should be sent me, and a Machine prepared to carry me to the Capital City.

This Resolution perhaps may appear very bold and dangerous, and I am confident would not be imitated by any Prince in Europe on the like occasion ; however, in

my opinion it was extremely Prudent as well as Generous. For supposing these People had endeavour'd to kill me with their Spears and Arrows while I was asleep, I should certainly have awaked with the first Sense of Smart, which might so far have roused my Rage and Strength, as to have enabled me to break the Strings wherewith I was tied ; after which, as they were not able to make Resistance, so they could expect no Mercy.

These people are most excellent Mathematicians, and arrived to a great perfection in Mechanicks by the countenance and encouragement of the Emperor, who is a renowned Patron of Learning. This Prince hath several Machines fixed on Wheels for the carriage of Trees and other great Weights. He often builds his largest Men of War, whereof some are Nine foot long, in the Woods where the Timber grows, and has them carried on these Engines three or four hundred yards to the Sea. Five hundred Carpenters and Engineers were immediately set at work to prepare the greatest Engine

they had. It was a Frame of Wood raised Three inches from the ground, about Seven foot long and Four wide, moving upon Twenty-two wheels. The Shout I heard was upon the arrival of this Engine, which it seems set out in Four hours after my Landing. It was brought parallel to me as I lay. But the principal Difficulty was to raise and place me in this Vehicle. Eighty Poles, each of One foot high, were erected for this purpose, and very strong Cords of the bigness of Packthread were fastened by Hooks to many Bandages, which the Workmen had girt round my Neck, my Hands, my Body, and my Legs. Nine hundred of the strongest Men were employed to draw up these Cords by many Pulleys fastned on the Poles, and thus in less than Three hours, I was raised and slung into the Engine, and there tyed fast. All this I was told, for while the whole operation was performing, I lay in a profound sleep, by the force of that soporiferous medicine infused into my Liquor. Fifteen hundred of the Emperor's largest Horses, each

about Four inches and an half high, were employed to draw me towards the Metropolis, which, as I said, was Half a mile distant.

About four hours after we began our Journey, I awaked by a very ridiculous Accident; for the Carriage being stopt a while to adjust something that was out of order, two or three of the young natives had the curiosity to see how I looked when I was asleep; they climbed up into the Engine, and advancing very softly to my Face, One of them, an Officer in the Guards, put the sharp end of his Half-pike a good way up into my Left nostril, which tickled my Nose like a Straw, and made me sneeze violently: whereupon they stole off unperceived, and it was Three weeks before I knew the cause of my awaking so suddenly. We made a long March the remaining part of that day, and rested at night with Five hundred Guards on each side of me, half with Torches, and half with Bows and Arrows, ready to shoot me if I should offer to stir. The next morning at Sun-rise we continued our march, and arrived

within Two hundred yards of the City-Gates about Noon. The Emperor, and all his Court, came out to meet us, but his Great Officers would by no means suffer his Majesty to endanger his Person by mounting on my Body.

At the place where the Carriage stopt, there stood an ancient Temple, esteemed to be the largest in the whole Kingdom, which having been polluted some Years before by an unnatural Murder, was, according to the Zeal of those People, look'd on as Prophane, and therefore had been applied to common Uses, and all the Ornaments and Furniture carried away. In this Edifice it was determined I should lodge. The great Gate fronting to the North was about Four foot high, and almost Two foot wide, through which I could easily creep. On each side of the Gate was a small Window not above Six inches from the ground : into that on the Left side, the King's Smiths conveyed Fourscore and eleven Chains, like those that hang to a Lady's Watch in Europe, and almost as large, which

were locked to my Left leg with Six and thirty Padlocks. Over-against this Temple, on t'other side of the great Highway, at Twenty foot distance, there was a Turret at least Five foot high. Here the Emperor ascended with many principal Lords of his Court, to have an opportunity of viewing me, as I was told, for I could not see them. It was reckoned that above an Hundred Thousand Inhabitants came out of the town upon the same errand ; and in spight of my Guards, I believe there could not be fewer than Ten thousand, at several times, who mounted upon my body by the help of ladders. But a Proclamation was soon issued to forbid it upon pain of death. When the Workmen found it was impossible for me to break loose, they cut all the Strings that bound me ; whereupon I rose up with as melancholy a disposition as ever I had in my life. But the noise and astonishment of the People at seeing me rise and walk are not to be expressed. The Chains that held my Left leg were about Two yards long, and

gave me not only the liberty of walking backwards and forwards in a Semicircle ; but being fixed within Four inches of the gate allowed me to creep in, and lie at my full length in the Temple.

## CHAPTER II

The Emperor of Lilliput, attended by several of the Nobility, come to see the Author in his Confinement. The Emperor's Person and Habit describ'd. Learned Men appointed to teach the Author their Language. He gains Favour by his mild Disposition. His Pockets are searched, and his Sword and Pistols taken from him.

WHEN I found myself on my feet, I looked about me, and must confess I never beheld a more entertaining Prospect. The Countrey round appeared like a continued Garden, and the inclosed Fields, which were generally Forty foot square, resembled so many Beds of Flowers. These Fields were intermingled with Woods of half a Stang, and the tallest Trees, as I could judge, appeared to be Seven foot high. I viewed the Town on my Left hand, which looked like the painted Scene of a City in a Theatre.

The Emperor was already descended from



the Tower, and advancing on Horseback towards me, which had like to have cost him dear ; for the Beast, though very well trained, yet wholly unused to such a Sight, which appeared as if a Mountain moved before him, reared up on his hinder Feet : But that Prince, who is an excellent Horseman, kept his Seat, till his Attendants ran in, and held the Bridle, while his Master had time to dismount. When he alighted, he surveyed me round with great admiration, but kept without the length of my Chain. He ordered his Cooks and Butlers, who were already prepared, to give me Victuals and Drink, which they pushed forward in a sort of Vehicles upon Wheels till I could reach them. I took those Vehicles, and soon emptied them all ; Twenty of them were filled with Meat, and Ten with Liquor, each of the former afforded me two or three good mouthfuls, and I emptied the Liquor of Ten Vessels, which was contained in earthen Vials, into one Vehicle, drinking it off at a draught, and so I did with the rest. The Empress and young Princes of the Blood,

of both Sexes, attended by many Ladies, sate at some distance in their Chairs ; but upon the Accident that happened to the Emperor's Horse, they alighted, and came near his Person, which I am now going to describe. He is taller by almost the breadth of my Nail, than any of his Court, which alone is enough to strike an Awe into the Beholders. His Features are strong and masculine, with an Austrian Lip and arched Nose, his Complexion olive, his Countenance erect, his Body and Limbs well proportioned, all his Motions graceful, and his deportment majestick. He was then past his Prime, being Twenty-eight years and three quarters old, of which he had reigned about Seven, in great felicity, and generally victorious. For the better convenience of beholding him, I lay on my side, so that my Face was parallel to his, and he stood but Three yards off: However, I have had him since many times in my hand, and therefore cannot be deceived in the description. His dress was very plain and simple, and the Fashion of it between the Asiatick

and the European ; but he had on his Head a light Helmet of Gold, adorned with Jewels, and a Plume on the Crest. He held his Sword drawn in his hand, to defend himself, if I should happen to break loose ; it was almost Three inches long, the Hilt and Scabbard were Gold enriched with Diamonds. His Voice was shrill, but very clear and articulate, and I could distinctly hear it when I stood up. The Ladies and Courtiers were all most magnificently clad, so that the Spot they stood upon seemed to resemble a Petticoat spread on the ground, embroidered with Figures of Gold and Silver. His Imperial Majesty spoke often to me, and I returned answers, but neither of us could understand a syllable. There were several of his Priests and Lawyers present (as I conjectured by their habits) who were commanded to address themselves to me, and I spoke to them in as many Languages as I had the least smattering of, which were High and Low Dutch, Latin, French, Spanish, Italian, and Lingua Franca ; but all to no purpose. After about Tw

hours the Court retired, and I was left with a strong Guard, to prevent the Impertinence, and probably the Malice of the Rabble, who were very impatient to croud about me as near as they durst, and some of them had the impudence to shoot their Arrows at me as I sate on the ground by the Door of my house, whereof one very narrowly missed my Left eye. But the Colonel ordered Six of the Ring-leaders to be seized, and thought no Punishment so proper as to deliver them bound into my hands, which some of his Soldiers accordingly did, pushing them forwards with the But-ends of their Pikes into my reach ; I took them all in my Right hand, put Five of them into my Coat-pocket, and as to the Sixth, I made a Countenance as if I would eat him alive. The poor Man squalled terribly, and the Colonel and his Officers were in much pain, especially when they saw me take out my Penknife : But I soon put them out of fear ; for, looking mildly, and immediately cutting the Strings he was bound with, I set him gently on the ground,

and away he ran ; I treated the rest in the same manner, taking them one by one out of my Pocket, and I observed both the Soldiers and People were highly obliged at this mark of my Clemency, which was represented very much to my advantage at Court.

Towards night I got with some difficulty into my House, where I lay on the ground, and continued so to do about a Fortnight ; during which time the Emperor gave orders to have a Bed prepared for me. Six hundred Beds of the common Measure were brought in Carriages, and worked up in my house ; an hundred and fifty of their Beds sown together made up the Breadth and Length, and these were Four double, which however kept me but very indifferently from the Hardness of the Floor, that was of smooth Stone. By the same Computation they provided me with Sheets, Blankets, and Coverlets, tolerable enough for one who had been so long enured to Hardships as I.

As the news of my arrival spread through the Kingdom, it brought prodigious numbers

of rich, idle, and curious People to see me ; so that the Villages were almost emptied, and great neglect of Tillage and Household Affairs must have ensued, if his Imperial Majesty had not provided, by several Proclamations and Orders of State, against this Inconveniency. He directed that those who had already beheld me, should return home, and not presume to come within Fifty yards of my House without License from Court ; whereby the Secretaries of State got considerable Fees.

In the meantime, the Emperor held frequent Councils to debate what course should be taken with me ; and I was afterwards assured by a particular Friend, a Person of great Quality, who was looked upon to be as much in the Secret as any, that the Court was under many difficulties concerning me. They apprehended my breaking loose, that my Diet would be very expensive, and might cause a Famine. Sometimes they determined to starve me, or at least to shoot me in the face and hands with poisoned arrows, which

would soon dispatch me: But again they considered, that the Stench of so large a carcase might produce a Plague in the Metropolis, and probably spread through the whole Kingdom. In the midst of these consultations, several Officers of the Army went to the door of the great Council-Chamber; and two of them being admitted, gave an account of my behaviour to the Six Criminals above-mentioned, which made so favourable an impression in the breast of his Majesty and the whole Board in my behalf, that an Imperial Commission was issued out, obliging all the Villages Nine hundred yards round the City, to deliver in every morning Six beeves, Forty sheep, and other victuals for my sustenance; together with a proportionable quantity of Bread, and Wine, and other Liquors: for the due payment of which his Majesty gave Assignments upon his Treasury. For this Prince lives chiefly upon his own Demesnes, seldom except upon great occasions raising any Subsidies upon his Subjects, who are bound to attend him in his Wars at their own

expenſe. An Eſtabliſhment was alſo made of Six hundred perſons to be my Domesticks, who had Board-wages allowed for their maintenance, and Tents built for them very conveniently on each ſide of my door. It was likewiſe ordered, that Three hundred Taylors ſhould make me a Suit of Cloaths after the faſhion of the Countrey: That Six of his Maſteſty's greateſt Scholars ſhould be employed to inſtruct me in their Language: And, laſtly, that the Emperor's Horſes, and thoſe of the Nobility and Troops of Guards ſhould be frequently exerciſed in my ſight, to accuſtom themſelves to me. All theſe Orders were duly put in execution, and in about Three weeks I made a great progreſs in learning their Language; during which time, the Emperor frequently honoured me with his Viſits, and was pleaſed to aſſiſt my Maſters in teaching me. We began already to conſerve together in ſome ſort; and the firſt Words I learnt were to expreſs my deſire that he would pleaſe to give me my Liberty, which I every day repeated on my knees.



His Answer, as I could apprehend it, was, that this must be a work of Time, not to be thought on without the Advice of his Council, and that first I must *Lumos Kelmin pesso desmar lon Emposo*; that is, swear a Peace with him and his Kingdom. However, that I should be used with all kindness, and he advised me to acquire by my Patience, and discreet Behaviour, the good Opinion of himself and his Subjects. He desired I would not take it ill, if he gave orders to certain proper Officers to search me; for probably I might carry about me several Weapons, which must needs be dangerous things, if they answered the Bulk of so prodigious a person. I said, his Majesty should be satisfied, for I was ready to strip myself, and turn up my Pockets before him. This I delivered part in Words, and part in Signs. He replied, that by the Laws of the Kingdom I must be searched by Two of his Officers; that he knew this could not be done without my Consent and Assistance; that he had so good an opinion of my Generosity and Justice, as

to trust their Persons in my hands: That whatever they took from me should be returned when I left the Country, or paid for at the rate which I would set upon them. I took up the Two Officers in my hands, put them first into my Coat-pockets, and then into every other Pocket about me, except my Two Fobs, and another secret Pocket I had no mind should be searched, wherein I had some little Necessaries that were of no consequence to any but myself. In One of my Fobs there was a Silver Watch, and in the other a small quantity of Gold in a Purse. These Gentlemen, having Pen, Ink and Paper about them, made an exact Inventory of every thing they saw; and when they had done, desired I would set them down, that they might deliver it to the Emperor. This Inventory I afterwards translated into English, and is word for word as follows.

*Imprimis*, In the Right Coat-pocket of the Great Man Mountain (for so I interpret the words *Quinbus Flestrin*) after the strictest search, we found only one great piece of

coarse Cloth, large enough to be a Foot-cloth for your Majesty's chief Room of State. In the Left Pocket, we saw a huge Silver Chamber with a Cover of the same Metal, which we the Searchers were not able to lift. We desired it should be opened, and One of us stepping into it, found himself up to the mid leg in a sort of Dust, some part whereof flying up to our Faces, set us both a sneezing for several times together. In his Right Wastcoat-pocket, we found a prodigious bundle of white thin Substances, folded one over another, about the bigness of Three men, tied with a strong Cable, and marked with black Figures ; which we humbly conceive to be Writings, every Letter almost half as large as the Palm of our Hands. In the Left, there was a sort of Engine, from the Back of which were extended Twenty long Poles, resembling the Pallisado's before your Majesty's Court ; wherewith we conjecture the Man Mountain combs his head, for we did not always trouble him with Questions, because we found it a great difficulty to make

him understand us. In the large Pocket on the Right side of his middle Cover (so I translate the word Ranfu-Lo, by which they meant my Breeches) we saw a hollow Pillar of Iron, about the length of a Man, fastened to a strong piece of Timber, larger than the Pillar ; and upon One side of the Pillar were huge pieces of Iron sticking out, cut into strange Figures, which we know not what to make of. In the Left pocket, another Engine of the same kind. In the smaller pocket on the Right side, were several round flat pieces of white and red Metal, of different bulk ; some of the white, which seemed to be Silver, were so large and heavy, that my Comrade and I could hardly lift them. In the Left pocket were Two black Pillars irregularly shaped : We could not, without difficulty, reach the top of them as we stood at the bottom of his pocket. One of them was covered, and seemed all of a piece : But at the upper end of the other, there appeared a white round Substance, about twice the bigness of our Heads. Within each of these

was enclosed a prodigious Plate of Steel ; which, by our orders, we obliged him to shew us, because we apprehended they might be dangerous Engines. He took them out of their Cases, and told us, that in his own country his practice was to shave his Beard with one of these, and to cut his Meat with the other. There were two pockets which we could not enter : These he called his Fobs ; they were Two large Slits cut into the top of his middle Cover, but squeezed close by the pressure of his Belly. Out of the Right Fob hung a great Silver Chain, with a wonderful kind of Engine at the bottom. We directed him to draw out whatever was fastened to that Chain ; which appeared to be a Globe, half Silver, and half of some transparent Metal : for on the transparent side we saw certain strange Figures circularly drawn, and thought we could touch them, till we found our Fingers stopped by that lucid Substance. He put this Engine to our Ears, which made an incessant Noise like that of a Water-mill : And we conjecture it is

either some unknown Animal, or the God that he worships ; but we are more inclined to the latter Opinion, because he assures us (if we understood him right, for he expressed himself very imperfectly) that he seldom did any thing without consulting it : He called it his Oracle, and said it pointed out the Time for every Action of his life. From the Left fob he took out a Net almost large enough for a Fisherman, but contrived to open and shut like a Purse, and served him for the same use : We found therein several massy pieces of yellow Metal, which if they be real Gold, must be of immense value.

Having thus, in obedience to your Majesty's Commands, diligently searched all his Pockets, we observed a Girdle about his Waist made of the Hide of some prodigious Animal ; from which, on the Left side, hung a Sword of the length of Five men ; and on the Right, a Bag or Pouch divided into two Cells, each Cell capable of holding Three of your Majesty's Subjects. In one of these Cells were several Globes or Balls of the most

ponderous Metal, about the bigness of our Heads, and required a strong Hand to lift them : the other Cell contained a heap of certain black Grains, but of no great bulk or weight, for we could hold above Fifty of them in the palms of our Hands.

This is an exact Inventory of what we found about the body of the Man-Mountain, who used us with great civility, and due respect to your Majesty's Commission. Signed and Sealed on the Fourth day of the Eighty-ninth moon of your Majesty's auspicious Reign.

CLEFREN FRELOCK, MARSI FRELOCK.

When this Inventory was read over to the Emperor, he directed me, although in very gentle terms, to deliver up the several Particulars. He first called for my Scymiter, which I took out, Scabbard and all. In the mean time he ordered Three Thousand of his choicest Troops (who then attended him) to surround me at a distance, with their Bows and Arrows just ready to discharge : But I

did not observe it, for mine Eyes were wholly fixed upon his Majesty. He then desired me to draw my Scymiter, which, although it had got some Rust by the Sea-water, was in most parts exceeding bright. I did so, and immediately all the Troops gave a Shout between Terror and Surprize ; for the Sun shone clear, and the Reflexion dazled their Eyes as I waved the Scymiter to and fro in my hand. His Majesty, who is a most magnanimous Prince, was less daunted than I could expect ; he ordered me to return it into the Scabbard, and cast it on the ground as gently as I could, about Six foot from the end of my Chain. The next thing he demanded was One of the hollow Iron Pillars, by which he meant my Pocket-pistols. I drew it out, and at his desire, as well as I could, expressed to him the use of it ; and charging it only with powder, which by the closeness of my Pouch happened to scape wetting in the Sea (an inconvenience against which all prudent Mariners take special care to provide) I first cautioned the Emperor not



to be afraid, and then I let it off in the Air. The Astonishment here was much greater than at the sight of my Scymiter. Hundreds fell down as if they had been struck dead ; and even the Emperor, although he stood his ground, could not recover himself in some time. I delivered up both my Pistols in the same manner as I had done my Scymiter, and then my Pouch of Powder and Bullets ; begging him that the former might be kept from the Fire, for it would kindle with the smallest Spark, and blow up his Imperial Palace into the Air. I likewise delivered up my Watch, which the Emperor was very curious to see, and commanded Two of his tallest Yoemen of the Guards to bear it on a Pole upon their Shoulders, as Draymen in England do a Barrel of Ale. He was amazed at the continual Noise it made, and the Motion of the Minute-hand, which he could easily discern ; for their Sight is much more acute than ours ; and asked the Opinions of his learned Men about him, which were various and remote, as the Reader may well

imagine without my repeating ; although indeed I could not very perfectly understand them. I then gave up my Silver and Copper Money, my Purse with Nine large pieces of Gold, and some smaller ones ; my Knife and Razor, my Comb and Silver Snuff-box, my Handkerchief and Journal-book. My Scymiter, Pistols, and Pouch, were conveyed in Carriages to his Majesty's Stores ; but the rest of my Goods were returned me.

I had, as I before observed, one private Pocket which escaped their search, wherein there was a pair of Spectacles (which I sometimes use for the weakness of mine eyes), a Pocket Perspective, and several other little Conveniences ; which being of no consequence to the Emperor, I did not think myself bound in Honour to discover, and I apprehended they might be lost or spoiled if I ventured them out of my possession.

### CHAPTER III

The Author diverts the Emperor and his Nobility of both Sexes, in a very uncommon Manner. The Diversions of the Court of Lilliput describ'd. The Author hath his Liberty granted him, upon certain Conditions.

MY Gentleness and good Behaviour had gained so far on the Emperor and his Court, and indeed upon the Army and People in general, that I began to conceive hopes of getting my Liberty in a short time. I took all possible methods to cultivate this favourable disposition. The Natives came by degrees to be less apprehensive of any Danger from me. I would sometimes lie down, and let Five or Six of them dance on my hand. And at last the Boys and Girls would venture to come and play at Hide and Seek in my hair. I had now made a good progress in understanding and speaking their Language. The Emperor had a

mind one day to entertain me with several of the Country Shows, wherein they exceed all Nations I have known, both for Dexterity and Magnificence. I was diverted with none so much as that of the Rope-dancers, performed upon a slender white Thread, extended about Two foot, and Twelve inches from the ground. Upon which I shall desire liberty, with the Reader's patience, to enlarge a little.

This Diversion is only practised by those persons who are Candidates for great Employments and high Favour at Court. They are trained in this Art from their youth, and are not always of noble Birth, or liberal Education. When a great Office is vacant either by Death or Disgrace (which often happens) Five or Six of those Candidates petition the Emperor to entertain his Majesty and the Court with a Dance on the Rope, and whoever jumps the highest without falling succeeds in the Office. Very often the Chief Ministers themselves are commanded to show their Skill, and to

convince the Emperor that they have not lost their Faculty. Flimnap, the Treasurer, is allowed to cut a Caper on the strait Rope, at least an Inch higher than any other Lord in the whole Empire. I have seen him do the Summerset several times together upon a Trencher fixed on the Rope, which is no thicker than a common Pack - thread in England. My Friend Reldresal, Principal Secretary for private Affairs, is, in my opinion, if I am not partial, the second after the Treasurer; the rest of the Great Officers are much upon a Par.

These Diversions are often attended with fatal Accidents, whereof great numbers are on record. I myself have seen Two or Three Candidates break a Limb. But the Danger is much greater when the Ministers themselves are commanded to show their Dexterity; for by contending to excel themselves and their Fellows, they strain so far, that there is hardly One of them who hath not received a Fall, and some of them Two

or Three. I was assured that a Year or Two before my arrival, Flimnap would have infallibly broke his Neck, if One of the King's Cushions, that accidentally lay on the ground, had not weakened the force of his Fall.

There is likewise another Diversion which is only shewn before the Emperor and Empress, and First Minister, upon particular Occasions. The Emperor lays on a Table Three fine silken Threads of Six inches long. One is Purple, the other Yellow, and the Third White. These Threads are proposed as Prizes for those persons whom the Emperor hath a mind to distinguish by a peculiar mark of his Favour. The Ceremony is performed in his Majesty's great Chamber of State, where the Candidates are to undergo a Tryal of Dexterity very different from the former, and such as I have not observed the least resemblance of in any other Countrey of the old or the new World. The Emperor holds a Stick in his hands, both ends parallel to the Horizon, while the Candidates advancing one by one, sometimes leap over the Stick, some-

times creep under it backwards and forwards several times, according as the Stick is advanced or depressed. Sometimes the Emperor holds one end of the Stick, and his First Minister the other ; sometimes the Minister has it entirely to himself. Whoever performs his part with most Agility, and holds out the longest in leaping and creeping, is rewarded with the Purple coloured Silk ; the Yellow is given to the next, and the White to the Third, which they all wear girt twice round about the middle ; and you see few great Persons about this Court who are not adorned with one of these Girdles.

The Horses of the Army, and those of the Royal Stables, having been daily led before me, were no longer shy, but would come up to my very feet without starting. The Riders would leap them over my hand as I held it on the ground, and One of the Emperor's Huntsmen, upon a large Courser, took my Foot, Shoe and all ; which was indeed a prodigious Leap. I had the good fortune to divert the Emperor One day after a very

extraordinary manner. I desired he would order several Sticks of Two foot high, and the thickness of an ordinary Cane, to be brought me ; whereupon his Majesty commanded the Master of his Woods to give directions accordingly ; and the next morning Six Wood-men arrived with as many Carriages drawn by Eight Horses to each. I took Nine of these Sticks, and fixing them firmly in the ground in a Quadrangular Figure, Two foot and a half square, I took four other Sticks, and tyed them parallel at each Corner, about Two foot from the ground ; then I fastned my Handkerchief to the Nine Sticks that stood erect, and extended it on all sides till it was as tight as the top of a Drum ; and the Four parallel Sticks rising about Five inches higher than the Handkerchief, served as Ledges on each side. When I had finished my Work, I desired the Emperor to let a Troop of his best Horse, Twenty-four in number, come and exercise upon this Plain. His Majesty approved of the Proposal, and I took them up one by one in my hands, ready



mounted and armed, with the proper Officers, to exercise them. As soon as they got into order, they divided into Two Parties, performed mock Skirmishes, discharged blunt Arrows, drew their Swords, fled and pursued, attacked and retired, and in short discovered the best Military Discipline I ever beheld. The parallel Sticks secured them and their Horses from falling over the Stage ; and the Emperor was so much delighted, that he ordered this Entertainment to be repeated several days, and once was pleased to be lifted up, and give the word of Command ; and, with great difficulty, persuaded even the Empress herself to let me hold her in her close Chair within Two yards of the Stage, from whence she was able to take a full view of the whole performance. It was my good fortune that no ill Accident happened in these Entertainments, only once a fiery Horse that belonged to one of the Captains pawing with his Hoof struck a hole in my Handkerchief, and his Foot slipping, he overthrew his Rider and himself ; but I immediately

relieved them both, and covering the Hole with one hand, I set down the Troop with the other, in the same manner as I took them up. The Horse that fell was strained in the Left shoulder, but the Rider got no hurt, and I repaired my Handkerchief as well as I could ; however, I would not trust to the strength of it any more in such dangerous Enterprizes.

About Two or Three days before I was set at liberty, as I was entertaining the Court with these kind of Feats, there arrived an Express to inform his Majesty that some of his Subjects riding near the place where I was first taken up, had seen a great black Substance lying on the ground, very oddly shaped, extending its Edges round as wide as his Majesty's Bed-chamber, and rising up in the middle as high as a Man ; that it was no living Creature, as they at first apprehended, for it lay on the grass without motion, and some of them had walked round it several times : That by mounting upon each others Shoulders, they had got to the top, which was

flat and even, and stamping upon it they found it was hollow within ; that they humbly conceived it might be something belonging to the Man-Mountain, and if his Majesty pleased, they would undertake to bring it with only Five horses. I presently knew what they meant, and was glad at heart to receive this Intelligence. It seems upon my first reaching the shore after our shipwreck, I was in such confusion, that before I came to the place where I went to sleep, my Hat, which I had fastned with a String to my head while I was rowing, and had stuck on all the time I was swimming, fell off after I came to land ; the String, as I conjecture, breaking by some accident which I never observed, but thought my Hat had been lost at sea. I intreated his Imperial Majesty to give orders it might be brought to me as soon as possible, describing to him the Use and the Nature of it : And the next day the Waggoners arrived with it, but not in a very good condition ; they had bored two Holes in the Brim, within an Inch and half of the Edge, and fastned Two Hooks in

the Holes ; these Hooks were tyed by a long Cord to the Harness, and thus my Hat was dragged along for above half an English Mile : But the Ground in that country being extremely smooth and level, it received less damage than I expected.

Two days after this Adventure, the Emperor having ordered that part of his Army which quarters in and about his Metropolis to be in a readiness, took a fancy of diverting himself in a very singular manner. He desired I would stand like a Colossus, with my Legs as far asunder as I conveniently could. He then commanded his General (who was an old experienced Leader, and a great Patron of mine) to draw up the Troops in close Order, and march them under me, the Foot by Twenty-four in a breast, and the Horse by Sixteen, with Drums beating, Colours flying, and Pikes advanced. This Body consisted of Three thousand Foot, and a Thousand Horse.

I had sent so many Memorials and Petitions for my Liberty, that his Majesty at

length mentioned the Matter first in the Cabinet, and then in a full Council ; where it was opposed by none, except Skyresh Bolgolam, who was pleased, without any provocation, to be my mortal Enemy. But it was carried against him by the whole Board, and confirmed by the Emperor. That Minister was Galbet, or Admiral of the Realm, very much in his Master's Confidence, and a Person well versed in affairs, but of a morose and sour Complexion. However, he was at length persuaded to comply ; but prevailed that the Articles and Conditions upon which I should be set free, and to which I must swear, should be drawn up by himself. These Articles were brought to me by Skyresh Bolgolam in person, attended by Two Under-Secretaries, and several Persons of Distinction. After they were read, I was demanded to swear to the performance of them ; first in the manner of my own countrey, and afterwards in the method prescribed by their Laws ; which was to hold my Right foot in my Left hand, to place

the Middle finger of my Right hand on the Crown of my head, and my Thumb on the Tip of my Right ear. But because the Reader may perhaps be curious to have some idea of the Style and Manner of expression peculiar to that People, as well as to know the Articles upon which I recovered my Liberty, I have made a Translation of the whole Instrument word for word, as near as I was able, which I here offer to the publick.

Golbasto Momaren Evlame Gurdilo Shefin Mully Ully Gue, most Mighty Emperor of Lilliput, Delight and Terror of the Universe, whose Dominions extend Five Thousand Blustrugs (about Twelve miles in Circumference) to the Extremities of the Globe; Monarch of all Monarchs, taller than the Sons of Men; whose Feet press down to the Center, and whose Head strikes against the Sun: At whose Nod the Princes of the Earth shake their Knees; pleasant as the Spring, comfortable as the Summer, fruitful as Autumn, dreadful as Winter. His most

sublime Majesty proposeth to the Man-Mountain, lately arrived to our Celestial Dominions, the following Articles, which by a solemn Oath he shall be obliged to perform.

First, The Man-Mountain shall not depart from our Dominions, without our License under our Great Seal.

2d, He shall not presume to come into our Metropolis, without our express Order ; at which time the inhabitants shall have Two hours warning to keep within their Doors.

3d, The said Man-Mountain shall confine his Walks to our principal High Roads, and not offer to walk or lie down in a Meadow or Field of Corn.

4th, As he walks the said Roads, he shall take the utmost care not to trample upon the bodies of any of our loving Subjects, their Horses, or Carriages, nor take any of our said Subjects into his hands, without their own consent.

5th, If an Express requires extraordinary Dispatch, the Man-Mountain shall be obliged

to carry in his pocket the Messenger and Horse a Six days Journey once in every Moon, and return the said Messenger back (if so required) safe to our Imperial Presence.

6th, He shall be our Ally against our Enemies in the Island of Blefuscu, and do his utmost to destroy their Fleet, which is now preparing to invade Us.

7th, That the said Man-Mountain shall, at his times of leisure, be aiding and assisting to our Workmen, in helping to raise certain great Stones, towards covering the Wall of the principal Park, and other our Royal Buildings.

8th, That the said Man-Mountain shall, in Two Moons time, deliver in an exact Survey of the Circumference of our Dominions by a Computation of his own Paces round the Coast.

Lastly, That upon his solemn Oath to observe all the above Articles, the said Man-Mountain shall have a daily Allowance of Meat and Drink sufficient for the Support



of 1728 of our Subjects, with free access to our Royal Person, and other marks of our Favour. Given at our Palace at Belfaborac the Twelfth Day of the Ninety-first Moon of our Reign.

I swore and subscribed to these articles with great Chearfulness and Content, although some of them were not so honourable as I could have wished ; which proceeded wholly from the malice of Skyrest Bolgolam the High Admiral : Whereupon my Chains were immediately unlocked, and I was at full liberty ; the Emperor himself in person did me the Honour to be by at the whole Ceremony. I made my Acknowledgments by prostrating myself at his Majesty's Feet : But he commanded me to rise ; and after many gracious expressions which, to avoid the censure of Vanity, I shall not repeat, he added, that he hoped I should prove a useful Servant, and well deserve all the Favours he had already conferred upon me, or might do for the future.

The Reader may please to observe, that in

the last Article for the recovery of my Liberty the Emperor stipulates to allow me a quantity of meat and drink sufficient for the support of 1728 Lilliputians. Some time after, asking a Friend at Court how they came to fix on that determinate number ; he told me, that his Majesty's Mathematicians, having taken the Height of my Body by the help of a Quadrant, and finding it to exceed theirs in the proportion of Twelve to One, they concluded from the Similarity of their bodies, that mine must contain at least 1728 of theirs, and consequently would require as much Food as was necessary to support that number of Lilliputians. By which, the Reader may conceive an idea of the Ingenuity of that People, as well as the prudent and exact Oeconomy of so great a Prince.

## CHAPTER IV

Mildendo the Metropolis of Lilliput describ'd, together with the Emperor's Palace. A Conversation between the Author and a principal Secretary, concerning the Affairs of that Empire. The Author's Offers to serve the Emperor in his Wars.

THE First request I made after I had obtained my Liberty, was, that I might have license to see Mildendo, the Metropolis; which the Emperor easily granted me, but with a special charge to do no hurt, either to the Inhabitants, or their Houses. The People had notice by Proclamation of my design to visit the Town. The Wall which encompassed it, is Two foot and an half high, and at least Eleven inches broad, so that a Coach and Horses may be driven very safely round it; and it is flanked with strong Towers at Ten foot distance. I stept over the great Western Gate, and passed very gently, and sideling through the Two princi-

pal Streets, only in my short Waistcoat, for fear of damaging the Roofs and Eaves of the Houses with the Skirts of my Coat. I walked with the utmost circumspection, to avoid treading on any Stragglers, that might remain in the Streets, although the Orders were very strict, that all people should keep in their houses, at their own peril. The Garret Windows and Tops of houses were so crowded with Spectators, that I thought in all my Travels I had not seen a more populous place. The City is an exact square, each side of the Wall being Five hundred foot long. The two great Streets which run cross and divide it into Four Quarters, are Five foot wide. The Lanes and Alleys which I could not enter, but only viewed them as I passed, are from Twelve to Eighteen inches. The Town is capable of holding Five hundred thousand Souls. The Houses are from Three to Five Stories. The Shops and Markets well provided.

The Emperor's Palace is in the Center of the City, where the Two great Streets meet.

It is inclosed by a Wall of Two foot high, and Twenty foot distant from the Buildings, I had his Majesty's permission to step over this Wall; and the Space being so wide between that and the Palace, I could easily view it on every side. The outward Court is a Square of Forty foot, and includes Two other Courts: In the inmost are the Royal Apartments, which I was very desirous to see, but found it extremely difficult; for the great Gates, from one Square into another, were but Eighteen inches high, and Seven inches wide. Now the Buildings of the outer Court were at least Five foot high, and it was impossible for me to stride over them, without infinite damage to the Pile, though the Walls were strongly built of hewn Stone, and Four inches thick. At the same time the Emperor had a great desire that I should see the Magnificence of his Palace; but this I was not able to do till Three days after, which I spent in cutting down with my Knife some of the largest Trees in the Royal Park, about an Hundred yards distant from

he City. Of these Trees I made Two Stools, each about Three foot high, and long enough to bear my Weight. The People having received notice a Second time, I went again through the City to the Palace, with my Two Stools in my hands. When I came to the side of the outer Court, I stood upon One Stool, and took the other in my hand : This I lifted over the Roof, and gently : it down on the Space between the first and second Court, which was Eight foot wide. I then stept over the Buildings very conveniently from one Stool to the other, and drew up the first after me with a hooked Stick. By this contrivance I got into the inmost Court ; and lying down upon my Side, I applied my Face to the Windows of the middle Stories, which were left open on purpose, and discovered the most splendid Apartments that can be imagined. There I saw the Empress, and the young Princes in their several Lodgings, with their chief Attendants about them. Her Imperial Majesty was pleased to smile very graciously

upon me, and gave me out of the Window :  
her Hand to kiss.

But I shall not anticipate the Reader with farther Descriptions of this kind, because I reserve them for a greater Work, which is now almost ready for the Press, containing a general Description of this Empire, from its first Erection, through a long Series of Princes, with a particular Account of their Wars and Politicks, Laws, Learning, and Religion ; their Plants and Animals, their peculiar Manners and Customs, with other Matters very curious and useful ; my chief design at present being only to relate such Events and Transactions as happened to the publick, or to myself, during a Residence of about Nine months in that Empire.

One morning, about a Fortnight after I had obtained my liberty, Reldresal, Principal Secretary (as they style him) of private Affairs, came to my House, attended only by one Servant. He ordered his Coach to wait at a distance, and desired I would

give him a hour's Audience ; which I readily consented to, on account of his Quality and personal Merits, as well as the many good Offices he had done me during my Solicitations at Court. I offered to

down, that he might the more conveniently reach my Ear ; but he chose rather to let me hold him in my hand during our conversation. He began with Compliments on my Liberty, said he might pretend to some Merit in it ; but, however, added, that if it had not been for the present Situation of things at Court, perhaps I might not have obtained it so soon. For, said he, as flourishing a Condition as we may appear to be in to Foreigners, we labour under Two mighty Evils ; a violent Faction at home, and the danger of an Invasion by a most potent Enemy from abroad. As to the first, you are to understand, that for above Seventy moons past, there have been Two struggling Parties in this Empire, under the Names of Tramecksan, and Slamecksan, from the high and low Heels on their Shoes,



by which they distinguish themselves. It is alledged indeed, that the high Heels are most agreeable to our ancient Constitution : But however this be, his Majesty hath determined to make use of only low Heels in the Administration of the Government, and all Offices in the gift of the Crown, as you cannot but observe ; and particularly, that his Majesty's Imperial Heels are lower at least by a Drurr than any of his Court ; (Drurr is a Measure about the Fourteenth part of an inch.) The Animosities between these Two parties run so high, that they will neither eat nor drink, nor talk with each other. We compute the Tramecksan, or High-heels, to exceed us in number ; but the Power is wholly on our side. We apprehend his Imperial Highness, the Heir to the Crown, to have some Tendency towards the High-heels ; at least, we can plainly discover one of his Heels higher than the other, which gives him a Hobble in his Gait. Now, in the midst of these intestine Disquiets, we are threatned with an In-

vasion from the Island of Blefuscu, which is the other great Empire of the Universe, almost as large and powerful as this of his Majesty. For as to what we have heard you affirm, that there are other Kingdoms and States in the world, inhabited by human Creatures as large as yourself, our Philosophers are in much doubt, and would rather conjecture that you dropt from the Moon, or One of the Stars ; because it is certain, that an hundred Mortals of your Bulk would, in a short time, destroy all the Fruits and Cattel of his Majesty's Dominions. Besides, our Histories of Six thousand Moons make no mention of any other Regions, than the Two great Empires of Lilliput and Blefuscu, Which Two mighty Powers have, as I was going to tell you, been engaged in a most obstinate War for Six and thirty Moons past. It began upon the following Occasion. It is allowed on all hands, that the primitive way of breaking Eggs before we eat them, was upon the larger End : But his present Majesty's Grandfather, while he was a Boy,

going to eat an Egg, and breaking it according to the ancient practice, happened to cut one of his Fingers. Whereupon the Emperor his Father published an Edict, commanding all his Subjects, upon great Penalties, to break the smaller End of their Eggs. The People so highly resented this Law, that our Histories tell us there have been Six Rebellions raised on that account; wherein one Emperor lost his Life, and another his Crown. These Civil Commotions were constantly fomented by the Monarchs of Blefuscu; and when they were quelled, the Exiles always fled for Refuge to that Empire. It is computed, that Eleven thousand Persons have, at several times, suffered Death, rather than submit to break their Eggs at the smaller End. Many hundred large Volumes have been published upon this Controversy: But the Books of the Big-Endians have been long forbidden, and the whole Party rendered incapable by Law of holding Employments. During the Course of these Troubles, the Emperors of

Blefuscu did frequently expostulate by their Ambassadors, accusing us of making a Schism in Religion, by offending against a fundamental Doctrine of our great Prophet Lustrog, in the Fifty-fourth Chapter of the Brundecral (which is their Alcoran). This, however, is thought to be a mere Strain upon the Text : For the Words are these ; That all true Believers shall break their Eggs at the convenient End : And which is the Convenient end, seems, in my humble opinion, to be left to every man's Conscience, or at least in the Power of the Chief Magistrate to determine. Now the Big-Endian Exiles have found so much credit in the Emperor of Blefuscu's Court, and so much private Assistance and Encouragement from their Party here at home, that a bloody War hath been carried on between the two Empires for Six and thirty moons with various Success ; during which time we have lost Forty Capital Ships, and a much greater number of smaller Vessels, together with Thirty thousand of our best Seamen and

Soldiers ; and the Damage received by the Enemy is reckoned to be somewhat greater than ours. However, they have now equipped a numerous Fleet, and are just preparing to make a Descent upon us ; and his Imperial Majesty placing great Confidence in your Valour and Strength, hath commanded Me to lay this account of his Affairs before You.

I desired the Secretary to present my humble Duty to the Emperor, and to let him know, that I thought it would not become Me, who was a Foreigner, to interfere with Parties ; but I was ready, with the hazard of my Life, to defend his Person and State against all Invaders.

## CHAPTER V

**The Author by an extraordinary Stratagem, prevents an Invasion. A high Title of Honour is conferr'd upon him. Ambassadors arrive from the Emperor of Blefuscu, and sue for Peace.**

THE Empire of Blefuscu is an Island situated to the North-North-East side of Lilliput, from whence it is parted only by a Channel of Eight hundred yards wide. I had not yet seen it, and upon this notice of an intended Invasion, I avoided appearing on that side of the Coast, for fear of being discovered by some of the Enemies Ships, who had received no Intelligence of me, all Intercourse between the Two Empires having been strictly forbidden during the War, upon pain of Death, and an Embargo laid by our Emperor upon all Vessels whatsoever. I communicated to his Majesty a Project I had formed of seizing the Enemy's whole

Fleet ; which, as our Scouts assured us, lay at anchor in the Harbour ready to sail with the first fair Wind. I consulted the most experienced Seamen, upon the depth of the Channel, which they had often plummed, who told me, that in the middle at High-water it was Seventy Glumgluffs deep, which is about Six foot of European measure ; and the rest of it Fifty Glumgluffs at most. I walked towards the North-East Coast over-against Blefuscu, and lying down behind a Hillock, took out my small Pocket Perspective-Glass, and viewed the Enemy's Fleet at anchor, consisting of about Fifty Men of War, and a great number of Transports : I then came back to my House, and gave order (for which I had a Warrant) for a great quantity of the strongest Cable and Bars of Iron. The Cable was about as thick as Packthread, and the Bars of the length and size of a Knitting-needle. I trebled the Cable to make it stronger, and for the same reason I twisted Three of the Iron Bars together, bending the Extremities into a

Hook. Having thus fixed Fifty Hooks to as many Cables, I went back to the North-East Coast, and putting off my Coat, Shoes, and Stockings, walked into the Sea in my Leathern Jerkin, about half an hour before High-water. I waded with what haste I could, and swam in the middle about Thirty yards till I felt ground ; I arrived at the Fleet in less than half an hour. The Enemy was so frightened when they saw me, that they leaped out of their ships, and swam to shore, where there could not be fewer than Thirty thousand Souls. I then took my Tackling, and fastning a Hook to the hole at the Prow of each, I tied all the Cords together at the End. While I was thus employed, the Enemy discharged several thousand Arrows, many of which stuck in my Hands and Face ; and besides the excessive smart, gave me much disturbance in my Work. My greatest Apprehension was for mine Eyes, which I should have infallibly lost, if I had not suddenly thought of an Expedient. I kept among other little Necessaries a pair of



Spectacles in a private Pocket, which, as I observed before, had scaped the Emperor's Searchers. These I took out and fastned as strongly as I could upon my Nose, and thus armed went on boldly with my Work in spite of the Enemies Arrows, many of which struck against the Glasses of my Spectacles, but without any other effect, further than a little to discompose them. I had now fastned all the Hooks, and taking the Knot in my hand, began to pull; but not a Ship would stir, for they were all too fast held by their Anchors, so that the boldest part of my Enterprize remained. I therefore let go the Cord, and leaving the Hooks fixed to the Ships, I resolutely cut with my Knife the Cables that fastned the Anchors, receiving above Two hundred Shots in my Face and Hands; then I took up the knotted end of the Cables to which my Hooks were tyed, and with great ease drew Fifty of the Enemies largest Men of War after me.

The Blefuscudians, who had not the least

imagination of what I intended, were at first confounded with astonishment. They had seen me cut the Cables, and thought my Design was only to let the Ships run a-drift, or fall foul on each other : But when they perceived the whole Fleet moving in order, and saw me pulling at the end, they set up such a scream of Grief and Despair, that it is almost impossible to describe or conceive. When I had got out of danger, I stopt a while to pick out the Arrows that stuck in my Hands and Face, and rubbed on some of the same Ointment that was given me at my first arrival, as I have formerly mentioned. I then took off my Spectacles, and waiting about an hour till the Tide was a little fallen, I waded through the middle with my Cargo, and arrived safe at the Royal Port of Lilliput.

The Emperor and his whole Court stood on the shore expecting the Issue of this great Adventure. They saw the Ships move forward in a large Half-Moon, but could not discern me, who was up to my Breast in

Water. When I advanced to the middle of the Channel, they were yet more in pain because I was under Water to my Neck. The Emperor concluded me to be drowned, and that the Enemy's Fleet was approaching in a hostile manner : But he was soon eased of his Fears, for the Channel growing shallower every step I made, I came in a short time within hearing ; and holding up the end of the Cable by which the Fleet was fastned, I cried in a loud Voice, Long live the most puissant Emperor of Lilliput ! \* This great Prince received me at my landing with all possible Encomiums, and created me a Nardac upon the spot, which is the highest Title of Honour among them.

His Majesty desired I would take some other Opportunity of bringing all the rest of his Enemy's Ships into his Ports. And so unmeasurable is the Ambition of Princes, that he seemed to think of nothing less than reducing the whole Empire of Blefuscu into a Province, and governing it by a Vice-Roy ; of destroying the Big-Endian Exiles, and

compelling that People to break the smaller end of their Eggs, by which he would remain the sole Monarch of the whole World. But I endeavoured to divert him from this Design, by many Arguments drawn from the Topicks of Policy as well as Justice : And I plainly protested, that I would never be an Instrument of bringing a Free and Brave People into Slavery. And when the Matter was debated in Council, the wisest part of the Ministry were of my opinion.

This open bold Declaration of mine was so opposite to the Schemes and Politicks of his Imperial Majesty, that he could never forgive it ; he mentioned it in a very artful manner at Council, where I was told that some of the wisest appeared, at least, by their silence, to be of my opinion ; but others, who were my secret Enemies, could not forbear some Expressions, which by a side-wind reflected on me. And from this time began an Intrigue between his Majesty, and a Junto of Ministers maliciously bent against me, which broke out in less than Two months,

and had like to have ended in my utter Destruction. Of so little weight are the greatest Services to Princes, when put into the ballance with a Refusal to gratify their Passions.

About Three weeks after this Exploit, there arrived a solemn Embassy from Blefuscu, with humble Offers of a Peace ; which was soon concluded upon Conditions very advantageous to our Emperor, wherewith I shall not trouble the Reader. There were Six Ambassadors, with a Train of about Five hundred Persons, and their Entry was very magnificent, suitable to the Grandeur of their Master, and the Importance of their Business. When their Treaty was finished, wherein I did them several good Offices by the Credit I now had, or at least appeared to have at Court, their Excellencies, who were privately told how much I had been their Friend, made me a Visit in form. They began with many Compliments upon my Valour and Generosity, invited me to that Kingdom in the Emperor their Master's

Name, and desired me to shew them some Proofs of my prodigious Strength, of which they had heard so many Wonders ; wherein I readily obliged them, but shall not trouble the Reader with the Particulars.

When I had for some time entertained their Excellencies to their infinite Satisfaction and Surprize, I desired they would do me the Honour to present my most humble respects to the Emperor their Master, the Renown of whose Virtues had so justly filled the whole World with Admiration, and whose Royal Person I resolved to attend before I returned to my own Countrey : Accordingly, the next time I had the honour to see our Emperor, I desired his general Licence to wait on the Blefuscudian Monarch, which he was pleased to grant me, as I could plainly perceive, in a very cold manner ; but could not guess the Reason, till I had a Whisper from a certain person, that Flimnap and Bolgolam had represented my Intercourse with those Ambassadors as a mark of Disaffection, from which I am sure my heart was wholly free.

And this was the first time I began to conceive some imperfect Idea of Courts and Ministers.

It is to be observed, that these Ambassadors spoke to me by an Interpreter, the Languages of both Empires differing as much from each other as any Two in Europe ; and each Nation priding itself upon the Antiquity, Beauty, and Energy of their own Tongues, with an avowed Contempt for that of their Neighbour ; yet our Emperor, standing upon the advantage he had got by the seizure of their Fleet, obliged them to deliver their Credentials, and make their Speech in the Lilliputian Tongue. And it must be confessed, that from the great Intercourse of Trade and Commerce between both Realms, from the continual Reception of Exiles, which is mutual among them, and from the Custom in each Empire to send their young Nobility and richer Gentry to the other, in order to polish themselves, by seeing the World, and understanding Men and Manners ; there are few persons of Distinction, or

Merchants, or Seamen, who dwell in the Maritime Parts, but what can hold conversation in both Tongues; as I found some Weeks after, when I went to pay my respects to the Emperor of Blefuscu, which in the midst of great misfortunes, through the Malice of my enemies, proved a very happy Adventure to me, as I shall relate in its proper place.

The Reader may remember, that when I signed those Articles upon which I recovered my Liberty, there were some which I disliked upon account of their being too servile, neither could any thing but an extreme Necessity have forced me to submit. But being now a Nardac, of the highest Rank in that Empire, such Offices were looked upon as below my dignity, and the Emperor (to do him justice) never once mentioned them to me.



## CHAPTER VI

Of the Inhabitants of Lilliput, their Learning, Language and Customs, the Manner of educating the Children. The Author's way of living in the Country. His Vindication of a great Lady.

ALTHOUGH I intend to leave the Description of this Empire to a particular Treatise, yet in the mean time I am content to gratify the curious Reader with some general Ideas. As the common size of the natives is somewhat under Six inches high, so there is an exact Proportion in all other Animals, as well as Plants and Trees: For instance, the tallest Horses and Oxen are between Four and Five inches in height, the Sheep an Inch and half, more or less; their Geese about the bigness of a Sparrow, and so the several Gradations downwards, till you come to the smallest, which, to my sight, were almost invisible; but Nature hath adapted the Eye

of the Lilliputians to all Objects proper for their view: They see with great exactness, but at no great distance. And to show the sharpness of their sight towards Objects that are near, I have been much pleased in observing a Cook pulling a Lark, which was not so large as a common Fly; and a young Girl threading an invisible Needle with invisible Silk. Their tallest Trees are about Seven foot high; I mean some of those in the great Royal Park, the Tops whereof I could but just reach with my Fist clenched. The other Vegetables are in the same proportion; but this I leave to the Reader's imagination.

I shall say but little at present of their Learning, which for many ages hath flourished in all its branches among them: But their manner of writing is very peculiar, being neither from the Left to the Right, like the Europeans; nor from the Right to the Left, like the Arabians; nor from up to down, like the Chinese; nor from down to up, like the Cascagians; but aslant from one corner

of the paper to the other, like Ladies in England.

They bury their Dead with their Heads directly downwards, because they hold an opinion, that in Eleven thousand moons they are all to rise again, in which period the Earth (which they conceive to be flat) will turn upside down, and by this means they shall, at their Resurrection, be found ready standing on their feet. The Learned among them confess the Absurdity of this Doctrine, but the Practice still continues, in compliance to the Vulgar.

There are some Laws and Customs in this Empire very peculiar, and if they were not so directly contrary to those of my own dear Countrey, I should be tempted to say a little in their justification. It is only to be wished, that they were as well executed. The first I shall mention, relates to Informers. All Crimes against the State are punished here with the utmost severity ; but if the Person accused maketh his Innocence plainly to appear upon his Tryal, the Accuser is immediately put to

an ignominious Death ; and out of his Goods or Lands, the innocent Person is quadruply recompensed for the Loss of his Time, for the Danger he underwent, for the Hardship of his Imprisonment, and for all the Charges he hath been at in making his Defence. Or, if that Fund be deficient, it is largely supplied by the Crown. The Emperor does also confer on him some publick Mark of his Favour, and Proclamation is made of his Innocence through the whole City.

They look upon Fraud as a greater Crime than Theft, and therefore seldom fail to punish it with Death ; for they alledge, that Care and Vigilance, with a very common Understanding, may preserve a man's Goods from Thieves, but Honesty has no fence against superior Cunning : and since it is necessary that there should be a perpetual Intercourse of Buying and Selling, and dealing upon Credit, where Fraud is permitted or connived at, or hath no Law to punish it, the honest Dealer is always undone, and the Knave gets the advantage. I remember

when I was once interceding with the King for a Criminal who had wronged his Master of a great Sum of Money, which he had received by order, and ran away with; and happening to tell his Majesty by way of extenuation, that it was only a Breach of trust; the Emperor thought it monstrous in me to offer, as a Defence, the greatest Aggravation of the Crime : And truly I had little to say in return, farther than the common Answer, that different Nations had different Customs; for, I confess, I was heartily ashamed.

Although we usually call Reward and Punishment the Two Hinges upon which all Government turns, yet I could never observe this Maxim to be put in practice by any Nation except that of Lilliput. Whoever can there bring sufficient proof that he hath strictly observed the Laws of his Country for Seventy-three moons, hath a claim to certain Privileges, according to his Quality and Condition of Life, with a proportionable Sum of Money out of a Fund appropriated for that use : He likewise acquires the Title of Snilpall,

or Legal, which is added to his Name, but does not descend to his Posterity. And these people thought it a prodigious Defect of Policy among us, when I told them that our Laws were enforced only by Penalties without any mention of Reward. It is upon this account that the Image of Justice, in their Courts of Judicature, is formed with Six eyes, Two before, as many behind, and on each side One, to signify Circumspection ; with a bag of Gold open in her Right hand, and a Sword sheathed in her Left, to shew she is more disposed to Reward than to Punish.

In chusing Persons for all Employments, they have more regard to good Morals than to great Abilities ; for, since Government is necessary to Mankind, they believe that the common size of Human Understandings is fitted to some Station or other, and that Providence never intended to make the Management of publick Affairs a Mystery, to be comprehended only by a few Persons of sublime Genius, of which there seldome are Three born in an Age : But they suppose

Truth, Justice, Temperance, and the like, to be in every man's power ; the practice of which Virtues, assisted by Experience and a good Intention, would qualify any Man for the Service of his Countrey, except where a Course of Study is required. But they thought the want of Moral Virtues was so far from being supplied by superior Endowments of the mind, that Employments could never be put into such dangerous hands as those of Persons so qualified ; and at least, that the Mistakes committed by Ignorance in a virtuous Disposition, would never be of such fatal consequence to the Publick Weal, as the Practices of a Man whose Inclinations led him to be Corrupt, and had great Abilities to manage, and multiply, and defend his Corruptions.

In like manner, the Disbelief of a Divine Providence renders a Man incapable of holding any Publick Station ; for since Kings avow themselves to be the Deputies of Providence, the Lilliputians think nothing can be more absurd, than for a Prince to employ

such men as disown the Authority under which he acts.

In relating these and the following Laws, I would only be understood to mean the original Institutions, and not the most scandalous Corruptions into which these People are fallen by the degenerate nature of man. For as to that infamous Practice of acquiring great Employments by dancing on the Ropes, or Badges of Favour and Distinction by leaping over Sticks, and creeping under them ; the Reader is to observe, that they were first introduced by the Grandfather of the Emperor now reigning, and grew to the present height, by the gradual increase of Party and Faction.

Ingratitude is among them a capital Crime, as we read it to have been in some other Countries ; for they reason thus, That whoever makes ill Returns to his Benefactor, must needs be a common Enemy to the rest of Mankind, from whom he hath received no Obligation, and therefore such a Man is not fit to live.



Their Notions relating to the Duties of Parents and Children differ extremely from ours. For, since the Conjunction of Male and Female is founded upon the great Law of Nature, in order to propagate and continue the Species, the Lilliputians will needs have it, that Men and Women are joined together like other Animals, by the Motives of Concupiscence ; and that their Tenderness towards their Young proceeds from the like natural Principle : For which reason they will never allow, that a Child is under any obligation to his Father for begetting him, or his Mother for bringing him into the World ; which, considering the Miseries of human Life, was neither a Benefit in itself, or intended so by his Parents, whose Thoughts in their Love-Encounters were otherwise employed. Upon these and the like Reasonings, their Opinion is, that Parents are the last of all others to be trusted with the Education of their own Children : And therefore they have in every town publick Nurseries, where all Parents, except Cottagers and Labourers, are

obliged to send their Infants of both Sexes to be reared and educated when they come to the Age of Twenty moons, at which time they are supposed to have some Rudiments of Docility. These Schools are of several kinds, suited to different Qualities, and to both Sexes. They have certain Professors well skilled in preparing Children for such a condition of life as befits the Rank of their Parents, and their own Capacities as well as Inclinations. I shall first say something of the Male Nurseries, and then of the Female.

The Nurseries for Males of noble or eminent Birth, are provided with grave and learned Professors, and their several Deputies. The Clothes and Food of the Children are plain and simple. They are bred up in the principles of Honour, Justice, Courage, Modesty, Clemency, Religion, and Love of their Countrey ; they are always employed in some Business, except in the times of Eating and Sleeping, which are very short ; and Two hours for Diversions, consisting of bodily Exercises. They are dressed by Men till

Four years of age, and then are obliged to dress themselves, although their Quality be ever so great; and the Women Attendants, who are aged proportionably to ours at Fifty, perform only the most menial Offices. They are never suffered to converse with Servants, but go together in small or greater numbers to take their Diversions, and always in the presence of a Professor, or one of his Deputies; whereby they avoid those early bad Impressions of Folly and Vice to which our Children are subject. Their Parents are suffered to see them only twice a year; the Visit is to last but an hour. They are allowed to kiss the Child at meeting and parting; but a Professor, who always stands by on those occasions, will not suffer them to whisper or use any fondling Expressions, or bring any Presents of Toys, Sweet-meats, and the like.

The Pension from each Family for the Education and Entertainment of a Child, upon failure of due payment, is levied by the Emperor's Officers.

The Nurseries for Children of ordinary Gentlemen, Merchants, Traders, and Handicrafts, are managed proportionably after the same manner ; only those designed for Trades, are put out Apprentices at Eleven years old, whereas those of Persons of Quality continue in their Nurseries till Fifteen, which answers to One and twenty with us : But the Confinement is gradually lessened for the last Three years.

In the Female Nurseries, the young Girls of Quality are educated much like the Males, only they are dressed by orderly Servants of their own Sex, but always in the presence of a Professor or Deputy, till they come to dress themselves, which is at Five years old. And if it be found that these Nurses ever presume to entertain the Girls with frightful or foolish Stories, or the common Follies practised by Chambermaids among us, they are publicly whipped thrice about the City, imprisoned for a Year, and banished for life to the most desolate part of the countrey. Thus the young Ladies

there are as much ashamed of being Cowards and Fools, as the Men, and despise all personal Ornaments beyond Decency and Cleanliness: Neither did I perceive any Difference in their Education, made by their Difference of Sex, only that the Exercises of their Females were not altogether so robust, and that some Rules were given them relating to domestick Life, and a smaller compass of learning was enjoined them: For the Maxim is, that among People of Quality, a Wife should be always a reasonable and agreeable Companion, because she cannot always be young. When the Girls are Twelve years old, which among them is the marriageable Age, their Parents or Guardians take them home, with great expressions of Gratitude to the Professors, and seldom without Tears of the young Lady and her Companions.

In the Nurseries of Females of the meaner sort, the Children are instructed in all kinds of Works proper for their Sex, and their several degrees: Those intended

for Apprentices are dismissed at Nine years old, the rest are kept to Thirteen.

The meaner Families who have children at these nurseries, are obliged, besides their annual Pension, which is as low as possible, to return to the Steward of the Nursery a small monthly share of their Gettings, to be a Portion for the child; and therefore all Parents are limited in their Expences by the Law. For the Lilliputians think nothing can be more unjust, than for people, in subservience to their own Appetites, to bring Children into the World, and leave the Burthen of supporting them on the Publick. As to Persons of quality, they give Security to appropriate a certain Sum for each Child, suitable to their Condition; and these Funds are always managed with good Husbandry, and the most exact Justice.

The Cottagers and Labourers keep their Children at home, their Business being only to till and cultivate the Earth, and therefore their Education is of little consequence to

the Publick ; but the Old and Diseased among them are supported by Hospitals : For Begging is a Trade unknown in this Kingdom.

And here it may perhaps divert the curious Reader, to give some account of my Domesticks, and my manner of living in this Countrey, during a Residence of Nine months and Thirteen days. Having a Head mechanically turned, and being likewise forced by necessity, I had made for myself a Table and Chair convenient enough, out of the largest Trees in the Royal Park. Two hundred Sempstresses were employed to make me Shirts, and Linen for my Bed and Table, all of the strongest and coarsest kind they could get ; which, however, they were forced to quilt together in several Folds, for the thickest was some degrees finer than Lawn. Their Linen is usually Three inches wide, and Three foot make a Piece. The Sempstresses took my measure as I lay on the ground, one standing at my Neck, and

another at my Mid-leg, with a strong Cord extended, that each held by the end, while the third measured the length of the Cord with a Rule of an Inch long. Then they measured my Right thumb, and desired no more ; for by a mathematical computation, that twice round the Thumb is once round the Wrist, and so on to the Neck and the Waist, and by the help of my old Shirt, which I displayed on the ground before them for a Pattern, they fitted me exactly. Three hundred Taylors were employed in the same manner to make me Clothes ; but they had another Contrivance for taking my measure. I kneeled down, and they raised a Ladder from the Ground to my Neck ; upon this Ladder one of them mounted, and let fall a Plumline from my Collar to the Floor, which just answered the length of my Coat ; but my Waist and Arms I measured myself. When my Clothes were finished, which was done in my house (for the largest of theirs would not be able to hold them) they looked like



the Patchwork made by the Ladies in England, only that mine were all of a Colour.

I had Three hundred Cooks to dress my Victuals, in little convenient Huts built about my house, where they and their Families lived, and prepared me Two dishes a-piece. I took up Twenty Waiters in my Hand, and placed them on the Table, an Hundred more attended below on the Ground, some with Dishes of Meat, and some with Barrels of Wine, and other Liquors, slung on their Shoulders; all which the Waiters above drew up as I wanted, in a very ingenious manner, by certain Cords, as we draw the Bucket up a Well in Europe, A Dish of their Meat was a good Mouthful, and a Barrel of their Liquor a reasonable Draught. Their Mutton yields to ours, but their Beef is excellent. I have had a Sirloin so large, that I have been forced to make Three bits of it; but this is rare. My Servants were astonished to see me eat it Bones and all, as in our Countrey we do the

Leg of a Lark. Their Geese and Turkeys I usually eat at a Mouthful, and I must confess they far exceed ours. Of their smaller Fowl I could take up Twenty or Thirty at the end of my Knife.

One day his Imperial Majesty being informed of my way of living, desired that himself and his Royal Consort, with the young Princes of the Blood of both Sexes, might have the Happiness (as he was pleased to call it) of dining with me. They came accordingly, and I placed 'em upon Chairs of State on my Table, just over-against me, with their Guards about them. Flimnap the Lord High Treasurer attended there likewise, with his White Staff; and I observed he often looked on me with a sour Countenance, which I would not seem to regard, but eat more than usual, in honour to my dear Countrey, as well as to fill the Court with admiration. I have some private Reasons to believe, that this Visit from his Majesty gave Flimnap an opportunity of doing me ill Offices to his Master. That

Minister had always been my secret Enemy, though he outwardly caressed me more than was usual to the Moroseness of his Nature. He represented to the Emperor the low Condition of his Treasury ; that he was forced to take up Money at great Discount ; that Exchequer Bills would not circulate under Nine per Cent. below Par ; that in short I had cost his Majesty above a Million and a half of Sprugs (their greatest Gold Coin, about the bigness of a Spangle ;) and upon the whole, that it would be advisable in the Emperor to take the first fair occasion of dismissing me.

I am here obliged to vindicate the Reputation of an excellent Lady, who was an innocent Sufferer upon my account. The Treasurer took a fancy to be jealous of his Wife, from the Malice of some evil tongues, who informed him that her Grace had taken a violent Affection for my Person, and the Court-Scandal ran for some time, that she once came privately to my Lodging. This I solemnly declare to be a most infamous

Falshood, without any grounds, farther than that her Grace was pleased to treat me with all innocent marks of Freedom and Friendship. I own she came often to my house, but always publickly, nor ever without Three more in the Coach, who were usually her Sister and young Daughter, and some particular Acquaintance ; but this was common to many other Ladies of the Court. And I still appeal to my Servants round, whether they at any time saw a Coach at my door without knowing what Persons were in it. On those occasions, when a Servant had given me notice, my Custom was to go immediately to the door ; and after paying my respects, to take up the Coach and Two horses very carefully in my hands (for if there were Six horses, the Postillion always unharnessed Four) and place them on a Table, where I had fixed a moveable Rim quite round, of Five inches high, to prevent Accidents. And I have often had Four Coaches and horses at once on my Table full of Company, while I sate in my Chair

leaning my Face towards them ; and who was engaged with one Sett, the Coachman would gently drive the others round table. I have passed many an afternoon very agreeably in these Conversations. I defy the Treasurer, or his Two Informers (I will name them, and let 'em make the best of it) Clustril and Drunlo, to prove to any Person ever came to me *incog* except the Secretary Reldresal, who sent by express Command of his Imperial Majesty, as I have before related. I should not have dwelt so long upon this Particular if it had not been a Point wherein Reputation of a great Lady is so nearly concerned, to say nothing of my own though I had then the Honour to be Nardac, which the Treasurer himself is not for all the World knows he is only a Cluglum, a Title inferiour by one degree, as that of a Marquiss is to a Duke in England although I allow he preceded me in right of his Post. These false Informations, which afterwards came to the knowledge of,

an accident not proper to mention, made Flimnap the Treasurer shew his Lady for some time an ill countenance, and me a worse ; and although he was at last undeceived and reconciled to her, yet I lost all credit with him, and found my Interest decline very fast with the Emperor himself, who was indeed too much governed by that Favourite.

## CHAPTER VII

The Author being inform'd of a Design to accuse him of High-Treason, makes his Escape to Blefuscu. His Reception there.

BEFORE I proceed to give an account of my leaving this Kingdom, it may be proper to inform the Reader of a private Intrigue which had been for Two months forming against me.

I had been hitherto all my life a stranger to Courts, for which I was unqualified by the Meanness of my condition. I had indeed heard and read enough of the Dispositions of great Princes and Ministers ; but never expected to have found such terrible effects of them in so remote a Countrey, governed, as I thought, by very different Maxims from those in Europe.

When I was just preparing to pay my

attendance on the Emperor of Blefuscu, a considerable Person at Court (to whom I had been very serviceable at a time when he lay under the highest displeasure of his Imperial Majesty) came to my House very privately at night in a close Chair, and without sending his Name, desired admittance: The Chairmen were dismissed; I put the Chair, with his Lordship in it, into my Coat-pocket; and giving orders to a trusty Servant to say I was indisposed and gone to sleep, I fastened the Door of my House, placed the Chair on the Table, according to my usual custom, and sate down by it.

After the common Salutations were over, observing his Lordship's countenance full of concern; and enquiring into the reason, he desired I would hear him with patience in a matter that highly concerned my Honour and my Life. His Speech was to the following effect, for I took notes of it as soon as he left me.

You are to know, said he, that several



Committees of Council have been lately called in the most private manner on your account: And it is but Two days since his Majesty came to a full Resolution.

You are very sensible that Skyris Bolgolam (Galbet, or High Admiral) hath been your mortal Enemy almost ever since your Arrival. His original Reasons I know not, but his hatred is much encreased since your great Success against Blefuscu, by which his Glory, as Admiral, is obscur'd. This Lord, in conjunction with Flimnap the High Treasurer, whose Enmity against you is notorious on account of his Lady, Limtoc the General, Lalcon the Chamberlain, and Balmuff the Grand Justiciary, have prepared Articles of Impeachment against you, for Treason, and other Capital crimes.

This Preface made me so impatient, being conscious of my own Merits and Innocence, that I was going to interrupt; when he entreated me to be silent, and thus proceeded.

Out of Gratitude for the favours you have

done me, I procured Information of the whole Proceedings, and a Copy of the Articles, wherein I venture my Head for your service.

*ARTICLES OF IMPEACHMENT  
AGAINST QUINBUS FLESTRIN  
(THE MAN-MOUNTAIN).*

ARTICLE I

That the said Quinbus Flestrin having brought the Imperial Fleet of Blefuscu into the Royal Port, and being afterwards commanded by his Imperial Majesty to seize all the other Ships of the said Empire of Blefuscu, and reduce that Empire to a Province, to be governed by a Vice-Roy from hence, and to destroy and put to death not only all the Big-Indian Exiles, but likewise all the people of that Empire, who would not immediately forsake the Big-Indian Heresy: He, the said Flestrin, like a false Traitor against his most Auspicious, Serene, Imperial

Majesty, did petition to be excused from the said Service, upon pretence of unwillingness to force the Consciences, or destroy the Liberties and Lives of an innocent people.

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## ARTICLE II

That, whereas certain Ambassadors arrived from the Court of Blefuscu to sue for Peace in his Majesty's Court : He, the said Flestrin, did, like a false Traitor, aid, abet, comfort, and divert the said Ambassadors, although he knew them to be Servants to a Prince who was lately an open Enemy to his Imperial Majesty, and in open War against his said Majesty.

## ARTICLE III

That the said Quinbus Flestrin, contrary to the Duty of a faithful Subject, is now preparing to make a Voyage to the Court and Empire of Blefuscu, for which he hath received only verbal Licence from his Imperial Majesty ; and under Colour of the said Licence, doth falsely and traitorously intend to take the said Voyage, and thereby to aid, comfort, and abet the Emperor of Blefuscu, so late an Enemy, and in open War with his Imperial Majesty aforesaid.

There are some other Articles, but these are the most important, of which I have read you an Abstract.

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In the several Debates upon this Impeachment, it must be confessed, that his Majesty gave many marks of his great Lenity, often urging the Services you had done him, and endeavouring to extenuate your Crimes.

The Treasurer and Admiral insisted, that you should be put to the most painful and ignominious Death, by setting fire on your House at night, and the General was to attend with Twenty thousand men armed with poisoned Arrows to shoot you on the Face and Hands. Some of your Servants were to have private orders to strew a poisonous Juice on your Shirts, which would soon make you tear your own Flesh, and die in the utmost Torture. The General came into the same opinion, so that for a long time there was a Majority against you. But his Majesty resolving, if possible, to spare your Life, at last brought off the Chamberlain.

Upon this Incident, Reldresal, Principal Secretary for private Affairs, who always approved himself your true Friend, was commanded by the Emperor to deliver his Opinion, which he accordingly did; and herein justified the good Thoughts you have of him. He allowed your Crimes to be great, but that still there was room for Mercy, the most commendable Virtue in a Prince, and

for which his Majesty was so justly celebrated. He said the Friendship between you and him was so well known to the World, that perhaps the most honourable Board might think him partial: However, in obedience to the Command he had received, he would freely offer his Sentiments. That if his Majesty, in consideration of your Services, and pursuant to his own merciful Disposition, would please to spare your Life, and only give order to put out both your Eyes, he humbly conceived that by this expedient, Justice might in some measure be satisfied, and all the World would applaud the Lenity of the Emperor, as well as the fair and generous Proceedings of those who have the Honour to be his Counsellors. That the loss of your Eyes would be no impediment to your bodily strength, by which you might still be useful to his Majesty. That blindness is an addition to Courage, by concealing Dangers from us; that the Fear you had for your Eyes was the greatest Difficulty in bringing over the Enemy's Fleet,

and it would be sufficient for you to see by the Eyes of the Ministers, since the greatest Princes do no more.

This proposal was received with the utmost Disapprobation by the whole Board. Bolgolam, the Admiral, could not preserve his temper ; but rising up in Fury, said, he wondered how the Secretary durst presume to give his opinion for preserving the Life of a Traitor : That the Services you had performed, were, by all true Reasons of State, the great Aggravation of your Crimes ; that the same Strength which enabled you to bring over the Enemy's Fleet, might serve, upon the first Discontent, to carry it back : That he had good Reasons to think you were a Big-Indian in your heart ; and as Treason begins in the Heart before it appears in Overt-Acts, so he accused you as a Traitor on that account, and therefore insisted you should be put to death.

The Treasurer was of the same opinion ; he shewed to what streights his Majesty's Revenue was reduced by the charge of



maintaining you, which would soon grow insupportable: That the Secretary's Expedient of putting out your Eyes was so far from being a Remedy against this Evil, it would probably encrease it, as it is manifest from the common practice of blinding some kind of Fowl, after which they fed the faster, and grew sooner fat: That his sacred Majesty, and the Council, who are your Judges, were in their own Consciences fully convinced of your Guilt, which was a sufficient Argument to condemn you to death, without the formal Proofs required by the strict Letter of the Law.

But his Imperial Majesty fully determined against capital Punishment, was graciously pleased to say, that since the Council thought the loss of your Eyes too easy a Censure, some other may be inflicted hereafter. And your Friend the Secretary humbly desiring to be heard again, in answer to what the Treasurer had objected concerning the great Charge his Majesty was at in maintaining you, said, that his Excellency, who had the

sole disposal of the Emperor's Revenue, might easily provide against that evil, by gradually lessening your Establishment ; by which, for want of sufficient Food, you would grow weak and faint, and lose your Appetite, and consequently decay and consume in a few months ; neither would the Stench of your Carcass be then so dangerous, when it should become more than half diminished ; and immediately upon your death, Five or Six thousand of his Majesty's Subjects might, in Two or Three days, cut your Flesh from your Bones, take it away by Cart-loads, and bury it in distant parts to prevent Infection, leaving the Skeleton as a Monument of Admiration to Posterity.

Thus by the great Friendship of the Secretary, the whole Affair was compromised. It was strictly enjoin'd, that the Project of starving you by degrees should be kept a Secret, but the Sentence of putting out your Eyes was entered on the books ; none dissenting except Bolgolam the Admiral, who being a Creature of the Empress, was per-

petually instigated by her Majesty to insist upon your Death, she having born perpetual malice against you.

In Three days your Friend the Secretary will be directed to come to your house, and read before you the Articles of Impeachment; and then to signify the great Lenity and Favour of his Majesty and Council, whereby you are only condemned to the loss of your Eyes, which his Majesty doth not question you will gratefully and humbly submit to; and Twenty of his Majesty's Surgeons will attend in order to see the Operation is well performed, by discharging very sharp-pointed Arrows into the balls of your Eyes, as you lie on the ground.

I leave to your Prudence what measures you will take; and to avoid suspicion, I must immediately return in as private a manner as I came.

His Lordship did so, and I remained alone, under many Doubts and Perplexities of Mind.

It was a custom introduced by this Prince

and his Ministry (very different, as I have been assured, from the Practices of former times) that after the Court had decreed any cruel Execution, either to gratify the Monarch's Resentment, or the Malice of a Favourite, the Emperor made a Speech to his whole Council, expressing his great Lenity and Tenderness, as Qualities known and confessed by all the World. This Speech was immediately published through the Kingdom ; nor did any thing terrify the people so much as those Encomiums on his Majesty's Mercy ; because it was observ'd, that the more these Praises were enlarged and insisted on, the more inhuman was the Punishment, and the Sufferer more innocent. And as to myself, I must confess, having never been designed for a Courtier either by my Birth or Education, I was so ill a Judge of things, that I could not discover the Lenity and Favour of this Sentence, but conceived it (perhaps erroneously) rather to be rigorous than gentle. I sometimes thought of standing my Tryal, for although

I could not deny the Facts alledged in the several Articles, yet I hoped they would admit of some Extenuations. But having in my Life perused many State-Tryals, which I ever observed to terminate as the Judges thought fit to direct, I durst not rely on so dangerous a Decision, in so critical a Juncture, and against such powerful Enemies. Once I was strongly bent upon Resistance, for while I had liberty, the whole Strength of that Empire could hardly subdue me, and I might easily with Stones pelt the Metropolis to pieces; but I soon rejected that Project with Horror, by remembering the Oath I had made to the Emperor, the Favours I received from him, and the high Title of Nardac he conferred upon me. Neither had I so soon learned the Gratitude of Courtiers, to persuade myself that his Majesty's present Severities quitted me of all past Obligations.

At last I fixed upon a Resolution, for which it is probable I may incur some Censure, and not unjustly; for I confess I

owe the preserving mine Eyes, and consequently my Liberty, to my own great Rashness and want of Experience : because if I had then known the nature of Princes and Ministers, which I have since observed in many other Courts, and their Methods of treating Criminals less obnoxious than myself, I should with great alacrity and readiness have submitted to so easy a punishment. But hurry'd on by the Precipitancy of Youth, and having his Imperial Majesty's Licence to pay my attendance upon the Emperor of Blefuscu, I took this Opportunity, before the Three days were elapsed, to send a Letter to my Friend the Secretary, signifying my Resolution of setting out that morning for Blefuscu pursuant to the leave I had got ; and without waiting for an answer, I went to that side of the Island where our Fleet lay : I seized a large Man of War, ty'd a Cable to the Prow, and lifting up the Anchors, I stript myself, put my Cloaths (together with my Coverlet, which I brought under my Arm) into the Vessel, and drawing it after

me between wading and swimming, arrived at the Royal Port of Blefuscu, where the People had long expected me ; they lent me two Guides to direct me to the Capital City, which is of the same name. I held them in my hands till I came within Two Hundred Yards of the Gate, and desir'd them to signify my Arrival to one of the Secretaries, and let him know, I there waited his Majesty's Commands. I had an Answer in about an hour, that his Majesty, attended by the Royal Family, and great Officers of the Court, was coming out to receive me. I advanced an Hundred yards. The Emperor and his train alighted from their Horses, the Empress and Ladies from their Coaches, and I did not perceive they were in any Fright or Concern. I lay on the Ground to kiss his Majesty's and the Empress's Hand. I told his Majesty that I was come according to my Promise, and with the Licence of the Emperor my Master, to have the Honour of seeing so Mighty a Monarch, and to offer him any Service in my power,

consistent with my Duty to my own Prince ; not mentioning a word of my Disgrace, because I had hitherto no regular information of it, and might suppose myself wholly ignorant of any such Design ; neither could I reasonably conceive that the Emperor would discover the Secret while I was out of his power : Wherein, however, it soon appeared I was deceived.

I shall not trouble the reader with the particular account of my reception at this Court, which was suitable to the Generosity, of so great a Prince ; nor of the Difficulties I was in for want of a House and Bed, being forced to lie on the ground, wrapt up in my Coverlet.



## CHAPTER VIII

**The Author, by a lucky Accident, finds Means to leave Blefuscu ; and, after some Difficulties, returns safe to his native Countrey.**

THREE days after my arrival, walking out of curiosity to the North-East Coast of the Island, I observed, about Half a league off, in the sea, somewhat that looked like a Boat overturned. I pulled off my Shoes and Stockings, and wading Two or Three hundred yards, I found the Object to approach nearer by force of the Tide, and then plainly saw it to be a real Boat, which I supposed might, by some Tempest, have been driven from a Ship ; whereupon I returned immediately towards the City, and desired his Imperial Majesty to lend me Twenty of the tallest Vessels he had left after the loss of his Fleet, and Three thousand Seamen under the Command of the Vice-Admiral. This Fleet

sailed round, while I went back the shortest way to the Coast where I first discovered the Boat ; I found the Tide had driven it still nearer. The Seamen were all provided with Cordage, which I had beforehand twisted to a sufficient strength. When the Ships came up, I stript myself, and waded till I came within an Hundred yards of the Boat, after which I was forced to swim till I got up to it. The Seamen threw me the end of the Cord, which I fastned to a Hole in the forepart of the Boat, and the other end to a Man of War : But I found all my labour to little purpose ; for being out of my depth, I was not able to work. In this necessity, I was forced to swim behind, and push the Boat forwards as often as I could, with one of my hands ; and the Tide favouring me, I advanced so far, that I could just hold up my Chin and feel the Ground. I rested Two or Three minutes, and then gave the Boat another shove, and so on till the Sea was no higher than my Arm-pits ; and now the most laborious part being over, I took out my other

Cables which were stowed in one of the Ships, and fastning them first to the Boat, and then to Nine of the Vessels which attended me ; the Wind being favourable, the Seamen towed, and I shoved till we arrived within Forty yards of the Shore, and waiting till the Tide was out, I got dry to the Boat, and by the assistance of Two thousand men, with Ropes and Engines, I made a shift to turn it on its bottom, and found it was but little damaged.

I shall not trouble the reader with the difficulties I was under by the help of certain Paddles, which cost me Ten days making, to get my Boat to the Royal Port of Blefuscu, where a mighty concourse of people appeared upon my arrival, full of wonder at the sight of so prodigious a Vessel. I told the Emperor that my good fortune had thrown this Boat in my way, to carry me to some place from whence I might return into my native Countrey, and begged his Majesty's orders for getting Materials to fit it up, together with his Licence to depart ; which,

after some kind expostulations, he was pleased to grant.

I did very much wonder, in all this time, not to have heard of any Express relating to me from our Emperor to the Court of Blefuscu. But I was afterwards given privately to understand, that his Imperial Majesty, never imagining I had the least notice of his Designs, believed I was only gone to Blefuscu in performance of my Promise, according to the Licence he had given me, which was well known at our Court, and would return in a few days when that Ceremony was ended. But he was at last in pain at my long absence ; and, after consulting with the Treasurer, and the rest of that Cabal, a Person of Quality was dispatched with the copy of the Articles against me. This Envoy had Instructions to represent to the Monarch of Blefuscu, the great Lenity of his Master, who was content to punish me no further than with the loss of mine Eyes ; that I had fled from Justice, and if I did not return in Two hours, I should be deprived of

my Title of Nardac, and declared a Traitor. The Envoy further added, that in order to maintain the Peace and Amity between both Empires, his Master expected, that his Brother of Blefuscu would give orders to have me sent back to Lilliput, bound Hand and Foot, to be punished as a Traitor.

The Emperor of Blefuscu having taken Three days to consult, returned an Answer consisting of many Civilities and Excuses. He said, that as for sending me bound, his Brother knew it was impossible ; that although I had deprived him of his Fleet, yet he owed great Obligations to me for many good Offices I had done him in making the Peace. That however both their Majesties would soon be made easy ; for I had found a prodigious Vessel on the Shore, able to carry me on the Sea, which he had given order to fit up with my own Assistance and Direction, and he hoped in a few weeks both Empires would be freed from so insupportable an Incumbrance.

With this Answer the Envoy returned to

Lilliput, and the Monarch of Blefuscu related to me all that had past, offering me at the same time (but under the strictest Confidence) his gracious Protection, if I would continue in his Service ; wherein although I believed him sincere, yet I resolved never more to put any confidence in Princes or Ministers, where I could possibly avoid it ; and therefore with all due acknowledgments for his favourable Intentions, I humbly begged to be excused. I told him, that since Fortune, whether good or evil, had thrown a Vessel in my way, I was resolved to venture myself in the Ocean, rather than be an occasion of difference between two such mighty Monarchs. Neither did I find the Emperor at all displeased ; and I discovered by a certain Accident, that he was very glad of my Resolution, and so were most of his Ministers.

✓ These considerations moved me to hasten my departure somewhat sooner than I intended ; to which the Court, impatient to have me gone, very readily contributed. Five hundred Workmen were employed to make

two Sails to my Boat, according to my directions, by quilting Thirteen folds of their strongest Linen together. I was at the pains of making Ropes and Cables, by twisting Ten, Twenty or Thirty of the thickest and strongest of theirs. A great Stone that I happened to find, after a long search, by the Sea-shore, served me for an Anchor. I had the Tallow of Three hundred cows for greasing my Boat and other uses. I was at incredible pains in cutting down some of the largest Timber Trees for Oars and Masts, wherein I was, however, much assisted by his Majesty's Ship-Carpenters, who helped me in smoothing them, after I had done the rough work.

✓ In about a month, when all was prepared, I sent to receive his Majesty's Commands, and to take my leave. The Emperor and Royal Family came out of the Palace; I lay down on my Face to kiss his Hand, which he very graciously gave me; so did the Empress, and young Princess of the Blood. His Majesty presented me with Fifty purses of Two hundred Sprugs a-piece, together

with his Picture at full length, which I put immediately into one of my Gloves, to keep it from being hurt. The Ceremonies at my Departure were too many to trouble the reader with at this time.

I stored the Boat with the carcasses of an Hundred oxen, and Three hundred sheep, with Bread and Drink proportionable, and as much Meat ready dressed as Four Hundred cooks could provide. I took with me Six cows and Two bulls alive, with as many yews and rams, intending to carry them into my own country, and propagate the breed. And to feed them on board, I had a good bundle of Hay, and a bag of Corn. I would gladly have taken a Dozen of the natives, but this was a thing the Emperor would by no means permit; and besides a diligent search into my Pockets, his Majesty engaged my Honour not to carry away any of his Subjects, although with their own consent and desire.

Having thus prepared all things as well as I was able, I set sail on the Twenty-fourth day of September 1701, at Six in the



morning ; and when I had gone about Four leagues to the Northward, the Wind being at South-East, at Six in the evening, I descried a small Island about Half a league to the North-West. I advanced forward, and cast anchor on the Lee-side of the Island, which seemed to be uninhabited. I then took some refreshment, and went to my rest. I slept well, and I conjecture at least Six hours, for I found the day broke in Two hours after I awaked. It was a clear night. I eat my breakfast before the Sun was up ; and heaving anchor, the Wind being favourable, I steered the same course that I had done the day before, wherein I was directed by my Pocket-Compass. My intention was to reach, if possible, one of those Islands, which I had reason to believe lay to the North-East of Van Diemen's Land. I discovered nothing all that day ; but upon the next, about Three in the afternoon, when I had, by my computation, made Twenty-four leagues from Blefuscu, I descried a Sail steering to the South-East ; my course was

due East. I hailed her, but could get no answer ; yet I found I gained upon her, for the Wind slackned. I made all the sail I could, and in Half an hour she spied me, then hung out her Antient, and discharged a Gun. It is not easy to express the joy I was in upon the unexpected hope of once more seeing my beloved Countrey, and the dear Pledges I had left in it. The Ship slackned her Sails, and I came up with her between Five and Six in the evening ; September 26 ; but my heart leapt within me to see her English Colours. I put my Cows and Sheep into my Coat-Pockets, and got on board with all my little Cargo of Provisions. The Vessel was an English Merchant-Man, returning from Japan by the North and South Seas ; the Captain, Mr John Biddle of Deptford, a very civil Man, and an excellent Sailor. We were now in the Latitude of 30 Degrees South. There were about Fifty men in the ship ; and here I met an old Comrade of mine, one Peter Williams, who gave me a good character to the Captain.

This Gentleman treated me with kindness, and desired I would let him know what place I came from last, and whither I was bound ; which I did in few words, but he thought I was raving, and that the dangers I underwent had disturbed my head ; whereupon, I took my black Cattle and Sheep out of my Pocket, which, after great astonishment, clearly convinced him of my Veracity. I then shewed him the Gold given me by the Emperor of Blefuscu, together with his Majesty's Picture at full length, and some other Rarities of that countrey. I gave him Two Purses of Two hundred Sprugs each, and promised, when we arrived in England, to make him a Present of a Cow and a Sheep big with young.

I shall not trouble the reader with a particular account of this voyage, which was very prosperous for the most part. We arrived in the Downs on the 13th of April 1702. I had only one misfortune, that the Rats on board carried away one of my Sheep ; I found her Bones in a hole, picked clean from

the flesh. The rest of my Cattle I got safe on shore, and set them a grazing in a Bowling-Green at Greenwich, where the Fineness of the Grass made them feed very heartily, though I had always feared the contrary: neither could I possibly have preserved them in so long a Voyage, if the Captain had not allowed me some of his best Bisket, which rubbed to Powder, and mingled with Water, was their constant food. The short time I continued in England, I made a considerable profit by shewing my Cattle to many Persons of Quality, and others: And before I began my second Voyage, I sold them for Six Hundred pounds. Since my last return, I find the breed is considerably increased, especially the Sheep; which I hope will prove much to the advantage of the Woollen Manufacture, by the Fineness of the Fleeces.

I stayed but Two months with my Wife and Family; for my insatiable Desire of seeing foreign Countries would suffer me to continue no longer. I left Fifteen Hundred

the 1990s, the number of people in the world who are undernourished has increased from 600 million to 800 million (FAO 1996).

There are a number of reasons for this increase. First, the world population has increased from 5 billion in 1987 to 6 billion in 1997, and is projected to reach 8 billion by 2025 (UNEP 1997). Second, the world population is becoming increasingly urbanized, and this has led to a greater demand for food. Third, the world population is becoming increasingly aged, and this has led to a greater demand for food. Fourth, the world population is becoming increasingly mobile, and this has led to a greater demand for food. Fifth, the world population is becoming increasingly educated, and this has led to a greater demand for food.

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